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Japan

UN 'Peace Cooperation Corps' Issue Reported

Corps To Consist of SDF, Others

OW0510072590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0711 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Friday that Japan's proposed "United Nations Peace Cooperation Corps" will consist of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel, Maritime Safety Agency officers, fire fighters, and police officers. Nakayama, speaking at a session of the Special Committee on Security of the House of Representatives, said the government has no plan to recruit untrained, non-government personnel for the peace corps.

The morning session of the lower house panel session focused on the proposed U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill, which will be fully deliberated by both houses of the Diet when the Diet goes into a month-long extraordinary session Friday next week.

Atsuo Kudo, the legal counsel to the cabinet, said the SDF is not allowed to participate in the corps if use of force is involved but the SDF's participation in the corps will not be unconstitutional if the purpose and mission is not the use of force. Kudo, director general of the cabinet legislative bureau, said, however, that the SDF is not now allowed to participate in the proposed U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps because there is no provision in the SDF law concerning the SDF's participation in such a corps. The Japanese Constitution bans the use of force as means of settling international disputes.

The committee extensively debated the U.N. Peace Cooperation Law proposed by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. Kaifu unveiled the outline of the draft law on September 27 after Japan has been criticized for not doing enough in resolving the Persian Gulf crisis. Kaifu's proposal calls for establishing a U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps under the control of a civilian headquarters led by the prime minister.

Shizuo Wada, a member of the opposition Japan Socialist Party, asked whether the government plans to send a special envoy to Iraq to seek the release of Japanese hostages there. Nakayama responded that Japan must act in concert with other nations on the hostage issue.

No Training for Chemical Weapons

OW0810000190 Tokyo KYODO in English 2302 GMT 7 Oct 90

[By Jocelyn Ford]

[Text] Jiddah, Oct. 7 KYODO—Japanese medical personnel dispatched to Saudi Arabia to support the international response to the Gulf crisis lack training for military emergencies such as the possible use of chemical weapons by Iraq, the head of the advance team said Sunday.

"This is a big problem, but at present we don't have the resources to cover such training," team leader Shin Watanabe said in an interview. "If we worried about (chemical weapon attacks) we wouldn't be able to contribute at all," said Watanabe, a Foreign Ministry official formerly stationed in Saudi Arabia.

Watanabe said he was unsure whether Japan has sufficient supplies and expertise to provide protective equipment against chemical weapon attacks, and to train doctors to treat victims.

Watanabe, currently stationed in Hungary, arrived with the 17-member advance team three weeks ago to make preparations for a planned 100-member medical team. The scheme is the centerpiece of Japan's pledge to send personnel as well as funds to help resolve the Gulf crisis sparked by Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Watanabe said the advance team is considering setting up a base camp in the eastern province near the Kuwaiti border that would serve nearby residents, and in case of war also handle casualties. The Japanese Government has ruled out sending the medical team to the front line.

Watanabe said Saudi Arabia has expressed interest in procuring large ambulances, mobile hospitals, and communications equipment to prepare for wartime medical operations.

Cabinet on Sending of Forces

OW0610081390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—The cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has agreed to propose sending Self-Defense Forces [SDF] ships and aircraft abroad as support at overseas trouble spots for a proposed Japanese Peace Cooperation Corps, government sources said Saturday.

The national Diet, the country's legislature, will convene on October 12 to discuss the proposed United Nations Peace Cooperation Law which calls for establishment of the corps aimed at assisting U.N. peacekeeping activities. The bill's contents are yet to be announced and are currently being drafted by the government.

SDF supply vessels and transport planes will act independently as SDF units under the command of the Defense Agency Director General to transport personnel and materials to the Peace Cooperation Corps, the sources said.

One high-level government official said that the sending of warships and aircraft to trouble spots is the same as the SDF dispatching its icebreaker to Antarctica every year. The 11,600-ton icebreaker Shirase, which belongs to the Maritime Self-Defense Force, visits Antarctica every year carrying an Antarctic observation team.

Kaifu and his cabinet, responding to calls for Japan to assist in international peacekeeping efforts at trouble spots not only financially but also in terms of personnel, have proposed enacting a U.N. Peace Cooperation Law enabling the systematic dispatch of personnel, particularly noncombat SDF members.

The Japanese Government has called for the establishment of the Peace Cooperation Corps as part of Japan's contributions following the outbreak of the Persian Gulf crisis after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

The government envisages forming the proposed Peace Cooperation Corps headed by the prime minister with a membership of 1,000 to 2,000 people from both the public and private sector, drawing mainly noncombat SDF troops, police, and fire fighters.

The sending overseas of SDF personnel has been the main point at issue in the drafting of the U.N. Peace Cooperation Law because Japanese laws are interpreted as banning the dispatch of troops abroad.

Japan's war-renouncing Constitution forbids the country from using force as a means of settling international disputes, while the present SDF law does not assign the SDF any mission abroad. The government sources said the Self-Defense Forces will independently undertake transportation of personnel and materials for the proposed Peace Cooperation Corps.

In a last-minute compromise, Foreign Ministry and Defense Agency officials have reached agreement that the head of the Peace Cooperation Corps, the prime minister, will have the authority to command SDF personnel in the peace corps.

However, the Defense Agency Director General will have the authority to command the SDF units who will engage in transportation of the corps and its supplies, the sources said.

The activities of the peace corps will be strictly limited so that overseas deployment of the SDF does not trigger resentment from among Japan's neighboring countries which suffered from Japanese atrocities during and before World War II, the sources said.

Also at home, there are strong voices from the opposition camp against the sending of SDF troops abroad.

"The chief of the Peace Cooperation Corps Headquarters, the prime minister, will call for the support of the SDF only in unavoidable cases, setting strict conditions such as limitations on routes the ships travel," one government source said. "(The duty of the corps) will be limited to the rescue of Japanese nationals, relief of refugees, and United Nations peacekeeping activities," the source said.

If the status of SDF personnel is changed to Peace Cooperation Corps staff, they cannot steer supply ships because they would have dual command, government sources said. And if supply vessels are removed from the SDF to take part in the peace corps, the ships will lose their authorized privileges for sailing, they said.

The sources also pointed out that if SDF transport plane pilots shed their uniforms, they are not allowed to fly civilian aircraft because they have no licence. The duties of SDF personnel on board transport aircraft and supply ships used for transporting the peace corps will be strictly defined by law, they said.

Medical officers of the Ground Self-Defense Force who join the peace corps will retain their status as SDF members during service abroad but will restrict their activities to those of the corps, they said.

The planned draft legislation for the formation of the peace corps will lay the legal grounds for such activities as the monitoring of ceasefires and elections.

SDF To Use Government Jumbo Jets

OW0610124490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—The government plans to assign the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to operate two jumbo jets to be put into government service next year in connection with SDF personnel's planned participation in United Nations peacekeeping activities, government sources said Saturday.

While the Boeing 747-400s would probably be used most often for travel by the prime minister and other top government officials, they could also be used to rescue Japanese caught up in conflicts overseas, meaning that SDF personnel could be dispatched to world trouble spots.

The move is likely to spur further debate on the role of Japan's defense forces. A proposal is already being discussed to include noncombatant SDF personnel in a peace cooperation corps that could play a role in resolving the Persian Gulf crisis and assist in future U.N. peacekeeping operations in areas of conflict.

The move also followed a cabinet decision earlier in the day to seek the Diet's authority to send SDF ships and aircraft overseas to support the proposed peace corps. The corps would be established under a U.N. peace cooperation law, which the government plans to submit to the Diet for deliberation in an extraordinary session convening on October 12.

If the planes are used on a rescue mission, the SDF will have a "total mandate" and its pilots will operate them, just as in the case of government helicopters, the sources said. The French-made government helicopters, used for travel by top government officials among other purposes, have been under the control of the SDF since 1986 and SDF personnel are in charge of their management and operation.

The two jumbo jets, ordered from Boeing Co. of the United States in 1987, are due to be delivered in November next year. About 80 officials, including some from the Defense Agency, are being trained to operate the jets under temporary assignment to the prime minister's office.

Japan, lacking its own government aircraft, had to rely on Turkish planes to rescue Japanese trapped in the Middle East in 1985 during the Iraq-Iran war. There are now 141 Japanese men detained by the Iraqi authorities as human shields to deter a possible attack by multinational forces massing in the Gulf region since Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2.

The overseas dispatch of SDF personnel has been the focal issue in the drafting of the proposed peace cooperation law because of the traditional interpretation of Japanese laws as banning such a move. Japan's war-renouncing Constitution prohibits the use of force to settle international disputes while the present SDF law excludes the SDF from any mission overseas.

JSP Against Using Defense Force

OW0710102790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0939 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Kofu, Oct. 7 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Chairwoman Takako Doi said Sunday that her party will oppose the participation of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in the proposed "U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps" and called for establishment of an organization independent of the SDF to assist U.N. peacekeeping activities.

The leader of the No. 1 opposition party said in a party seminar that it is clear that participation in the U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps, mainly comprised of the SDF and the multinational force deployed to the Persian Gulf region, will violate the Japanese Constitution.

Doi criticized the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party for trying to organize overseas deployment of the SDF and substantially revise the Constitution. The Constitution forbids Japan from using force as a means of settling international disputes. Japanese laws are interpreted as banning the dispatch of troops overseas.

The government is drafting a U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill calling for establishment of the corps which would pave the way for the dispatch abroad of noncombat SDF personnel to assist U.N. peacekeeping activities.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu unveiled an outline of the draft bill on September 27 as part of Japan's efforts to help resolve the Gulf crisis following the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The JSP leader demanded the government delete the parts concerning the SDF's participation in the corps from the proposed bill.

Doi proposed that an organization to assist U.N. peacekeeping activities should cooperate in nonmilitary and welfare fields aimed at establishing peace based on U.N. resolutions and requests and under the command of the U.N. The organization should not use force or take hostile action, Doi said.

Doi cited supervision of cease-fires, monitoring and supervising of elections, communications, medical care and health, and relief of refugees as areas of the organization's concern.

Corps 'Could Respond With Force'

OW0910081090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0706 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—A proposed Japanese corps to assist with United Nations peacekeeping efforts in the Gulf crisis could respond with force if attacked, a government source said Tuesday.

The source emphasized that members of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) within the "U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps," currently under consideration by the Japanese Government, would be limited to the task of transporting non-military goods. If the SDF personnel were attacked in their duties, however, they would be able to use weapons for their own protection in line with article 95 of the Self-Defense Forces Law, the source said.

The prime minister, who will act as the head of the Japanese corps, will entrust the task of transportation to the SDF personnel, thus avoiding a leadership question with the director of the defense agency, the source suggested, stressing that the corps would remain under civilian control.

By limiting the tasks the SDF personnel can undertake within the corps, the government plans to cope with criticism from opposition parties that the SDF is being structured into the corps and will be dispatched overseas, which opponents contend is prohibited under the Japanese Constitution.

Japanese Red Army on SDF Dispatch

OW0810044290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0356 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Beirut, Oct. 8 KYODO—A leader of the extremist Japanese Red Army has told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that the group will fight the Japanese Government if it sends Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to the Persian Gulf area. Fusako Shigenobu, 45, recently gave an exclusive interview to KYODO at a hotel in a Middle East mountain resort, whose location was withheld at her request.

The Red Army issued an announcement last Friday demanding the Japanese Government halt any attempt to send SDF officials overseas.

The Japanese Government is currently drafting a bill to pave the way for the dispatch of noncombatant personnel from the SDF to join United Nations peacekeeping operations. Japan's war-renouncing Constitution bans the use of force as a means of settling international disputes, while the SDF law does not give SDF any overseas mission.

During the four-hour interview, Shigenobu said her group will concentrate its efforts on the political side of the struggle. She said any military action by her group would depend on the situation.

Shigenobu said that although the Red Army opposes the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2, a withdrawal of foreign military forces from the region is a prerequisite to any solution to the Gulf crisis. She also said that, in principle, the group will not intervene in internal affairs among Arab countries.

In a reference to the problem of Japanese hostages detained in Iraq, Shigenobu criticized the Japanese Government for following the United States in its foreign policy. She said it will cause serious consequences for the hostage issue. Iraq is holding at least 141 Japanese nationals as human shields at strategic points around the country.

The Japanese Red Army, formed in 1971, is based in Lebanon's Al- Biqa' valley and has close ties with radical Palestinian groups such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). Asked about links with the PFLP, which supports Iraq, Shigenobu said, "We will join the Palestinian groups only in terms of anti-Americanism."

Shigenobu also said the recent collapse of socialism in East European nations has adversely affected her group's relations with those nations.

The Red Army conducted a series of hijackings and armed attacks in the 1970s, including an attack at Lod International Airport in Tel Aviv on May 30, 1972, in which three of its members opened fire with guns and grenades killing 26 people and injuring 72. They have not been active recently.

Japanese police have Shigenobu and another 15 members of the group on the international wanted list.

Government Outlines Proposal

OW0910140090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1339 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—The Japanese Government on Tuesday outlined its proposal to allow the nation's Self-Defense Force to join overseas peacekeeping activities in the field of transportation.

According to an outline of the U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, SDF personnel would retain their status in the peace corps while serving abroad, although their activities would be limited strictly to transporting nonmilitary goods. Duties of the proposed team would include observing cease-fires, monitoring and managing elections, transportation, communications, and medical services.

The proposed legislation aims to respond to an international call on Japan to do more than provide funds to help U.N. peacekeeping efforts in the Persian Gulf.

Earlier in the day, a government source said the plan would allow SDF members to respond with force if they are attacked abroad during transport operations. SDF personnel also would be permitted to use weapons in self- defense if attacked in the line of duty, the source added, in line with article 95 of the Self-Defense Forces Law. However, the points the sources mentioned were not included in the outlines of the bill KYODO obtained.

The government plans to work out a detailed draft of the bill in close consultations with ruling Liberal Democratic Party leaders and to submit the plan to an extraordinary session of the Diet to be convened Friday, officials said.

While the bill would strictly limit the proposed peace team's mission to noncombat activity, it is expected to arouse controversy at home and abroad because it would enable the overseas dispatch of SDF personnel, sources said. China and other Asian nations—victims of Japan's militarism before and during World War II—are reportedly concerned over Japan's plan to use SDF members abroad.

Under the proposed law, the prime minister would serve as the commander of the Japanese peace team and decide on its dispatch at the request of the foreign minister. The decision to send the peace corps would have to be approved by the cabinet.

The bill clearly declares that the Japanese team would be dispatched in line with U.N. peacekeeping resolutions.

The prime minister could entrust the Defense Agency chief with the air and marine transport activities of the team, according to the government outline.

Extraordinary Diet Session Plan

OW0910104190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1008 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—The government decided Tuesday to convene a 30-day extraordinary Diet session on Friday, mainly to deliberate a bill for cooperating in United Nations peacepeeking activities.

The government reached its decision at an extraordinary cabinet meeting after Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu returned home earlier Tuesday from a 12-day visit to the United States and the Middle East.

Kaifu Returns From U.S., Middle East Tour

OW0910080790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0723 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu returned home Tuesday afternoon from a 12-day trip to the United States and five Middle East Countries. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Government Delivers Messages to Hostages

OW0610124790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1203 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—The Iraqi Government has delivered messages from home to the Japanese hostages it is holding, Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday.

The Japanese Embassy in Baghdad has confirmed that they have received the messages, quoting one of the 141 Japanese hostages as writing to the embassy, "I was encouraged by receiving a message from my family." The letter was among about 100 the Iraqi Foreign Ministry delivered to the embassy on October 3.

In early September, the Japanese Foreign Ministry asked its Iraqi counterpart to transmit messages from family members to Japanese nationals in Iraq. In the letter quoted above, dated September 17, the Japanese man also asked the embassy to send such necessities as medicine, the officials said.

At least 141 Japanese nationals are believed to be held at strategic military and industrial facilities in Iraq as human shields to deter potential attacks. There are also an estimated 168 Japanese businessmen in Baghdad.

Families Allowed To Send Goods to Hostages

OW0910132590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Iraq has agreed to allow Japanese families to send letters, food, medicines, and other daily necessities to their relatives in Iraq through the Jordanian and Iraqi Red Crescent Societies, a senior Japan Socialist Party (JSP) official said on Tuesday. The agreement was made with a 12-member JSP delegation when it met top Iraqi Red Crescent Society officials in Baghdad on October 4, JSP House of Councillors member Osamu Yatabe said.

Yatabe made the announcement in a meeting with reporters shortly after his delegation arrived back in Tokyo from Amman. The delegation made an 11-day visit to Jordan and Iraq beginning September 29 to seek ways of freeing 309 Japanese people stranded on Iraqi soil.

Yatabe said the JSP delegation first asked the Jordanian Red Crescent Society to contact the Iraqi Red Crescent Society to seek ways of opening a channel through which food, medicines, and other staples could be handed over to the Japanese hostages. The delegation made the request when it met senior Jordanian Red Crescent Society officials on October 2, Yatabe said.

Both Red Crescent societies later agreed that Japanese families could send goods to Iraq through Jordan, said Yatabe, adding that the Iraqi Red Crescent Society will hand the goods to the relatives after receiving them from the Jordanian Red Crescent Society.

Yatabe said the JSP received an official letter from the Jordanian Red Cross Crescent to confirm the agreement.

Of 141 Japanese being held at strategically important Iraqi military facilities, 11 were found to be sick, Yatabe said. Of 168 other Japanese not allowed to leave Iraq, 32 are ill, he said. Yatabe said the delegation had learned of the sick people from Japanese families in Japan and a Japanese society in Baghdad.

Water Trucks, Other Goods To Be Sent to Gulf

OW0910114590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—A high-ranking official at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said on Tuesday Japan will send water trucks and other equipment to the multinational forces deployed in the Middle East.

The official, who declined to be identified, said Japan will provide 75 water trucks, 50 refrigerated trucks, plus televisions, video cassette recorders (vcrs), and personal computers, at the request of the forces. How many pieces of audio-visual equipment will be sent has yet to be decided, he said.

Foreign Minister Nakayama Leaves for Syria

OW0710130790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1243 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama left here for Syria on Sunday night to discuss the Persian Gulf crisis following Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait with Syrian leaders.

In Damascus, Nakayama will meet President Hafiz al-Asad and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to discuss the Gulf situation and Japanese aid to Syria, whose economy has been hit by the crisis.

Nakayama is scheduled to return home on Friday.

Israel Criticized for 'Excessive' Use of Force

OW0910140890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1349 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Japan on Tuesday criticized Israel for what it called an "excessive use of armed force" in the suppression of Monday's riot in Israeli-occupied East Jerusalem.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe said in a statement that "The Government of Japan deeply deplores the fact that many Palestinians were killed in the riot ..." and "...condemns the excessive use of armed force by the Israeli authorities."

"Japan strongly requests the Israeli authorities to exercise the utmost self-restraint and pay consideration based on international law and humanity to the Palestinians in the (Israeli) occupied territories. Japan also strongly hopes that this incident will not lead to a vicious circle of violence."

At least 19 were reported killed and over 100 others wounded by Israeli police when they fired at Palestinians who were hurling stones at Jews in East Jerusalem, an Arab part of the holy city captured by Israel in 1967. The clash, which occurred on a Jewish festival day, was the bloodiest since Israel seized the area.

The Japanese statement reconfirmed Japan's basic position that the problem of peace in the Middle East should be solved by negotiations among all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

It said that peace should be sought through an Israeli withdrawal from all the territories occupied since 1967, recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to the creation of an independent nation, as well as recognition of the right of the State of Israel to exist.

Soviet Analyst Says Island-Cash Swap Bad Deal

OW0810115690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—It would be unwise for the Soviet Union to transfer four contested islands to Japan on the basis of economic expectations, a Soviet analyst wrote in a published article obtained here Monday. The article, by analyst Boris Nikolayev, was published recently in the Soviet Foreign Ministry's English-language magazine VESTNIK.

"There are no serious economic reasons to transfer the four south Kuril islands to Japan, although there may be some political reasons," said Nikolayev, who writes on Far East affairs. He was referring to the dispute over a group of islands off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido, taken from Japan at the end of World War II, which have since become the greatest obstacle to improved bilateral ties.

Nikolayev said that the Soviet Union may be tempted to yield to Japan's territorial demands "and receive substantial economic aid in return" to shore up its disintegrating economy. "But there is a trap there," the analyst said.

"Is it really possible to change the economy of such a giant country as the Soviet Union at somebody else's expense—even with a 15-20 billion dollar credit?" he asked. "Thank God this country is beginning to realize the danger of foreign debt growth," he said.

In exchange for the islands or for undertaking to begin negotiations on their transfer, Nikolayev said Japan would most likely offer at best medium-term commercial credits. "If promptly and effectively used, an expensive credit is not a bad thing at all," he said. "But in the Soviet Union it cannot be disposed of in such a way."

Nikolayev warned that such credits would be wasted on imports of transitory consumer goods and unutilized industrial equipment, while the increased burden of external debt would retard the process of perestroyka.

Expanding on his remarks that there might be "political reasons" for a territorial concession to Japan, Nikolayev said there would be "no objection" if the islands were transferred to facilitate "peace, stability and mutually beneficial cooperation."

"However, I believe that we in the Soviet Union do not yet clearly understand the long-term strategic plans of Japan," he said, adding that "what we see is only the tip of the iceberg. "Who can guarantee that there will not be any further demands after the four small islands are ceded?," he asked. "History teaches us that precedents in politics are a very dangerous thing."

Spokesman Comments in 'Rebuttal'

OW0910145490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1438 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Japan harbors no territorial claims against the Soviet Union other than its demand for the islands of Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Tuesday. But spokesman Taizo Watanabe also reconfirmed Japan's stand that the question of ownership of other former territories seized from Japan by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II has yet to be determined under international law.

Watanabe made the remarks to foreign correspondents in a rebuttal of a recently published warning in a Soviet magazine that if Moscow were to transfer sovereignty over the four disputed islands, Japan might be led to stake other claims.

The government does not recognize Moscow's sovereignty over the southern half of Sakhalin Island and the islands of the Kuril Archipelago extending from Urup in the south to Shimshu in the north, according to Foreign Ministry officials. "That is to be decided by the allied forces," Watanabe said. But he added that Japan "has never claimed that we have a legitimate right to them" ever since it renounced all right, title, and claim in signing the 1960 San Francisco Peace Treaty,

Another Foreign Ministry official said Japan has "made it clear" in several sessions of working-level talks with the Soviets that it has "no intention" of claiming any territories other than the four islands now disputed.

Japan maintains, however, that the Soviets cannot claim ownership either because the San Francisco Treaty failed to determine the disposition of the territories and because Moscow was bound by an earlier allied agreement not to acquire territory as a result of the war.

In any case, Watanabe asserted, the four islands now claimed by Japan are irrelevant to the discussion. Japan considers them to be contiguous to, not part of, the "Kurils" that it relinquished in San Francisco.

Boris Nikolayev, an analyst on far eastern affairs, wrote in the September edition of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's monthly publication Vestnik, warned that a "dangerous" precedent could be set by making territorial concessions to Japan.

"We in the Soviet Union do not clearly understand the long-range strategic claims of Japan," Nikolayev said. "Who can guarantee that there will not be any further demands after the four small islands are ceded?"

Both Japanese and Soviet officials have said that the question of Japanese recognition of Soviet sovereignty over southern Sakhalin and the undisputed Kurils could possibily be incorporated into a belated peace treaty to be signed by the two countries. Japan has demanded that the transfer of the four disputed islands to Japan be spelled out in the peace treaty.

Soviet Union Indicates Return of Two Islands

OW0710034890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0302 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 (KYODO)—The Soviet Union has indicated that it would return to Japan two of four islands it has occupied since the end of World War II, political sources said Sunday. Soviet officials dropped the hint during a meeting with a mission sent by Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party late last month.

The two islands are Shikotan and the Habomais. Together with the two, Japan has also called for the return of Etorofu and Kunashiri islands.

The Soviet Union seized the islands, all located just east of Japan's northern most main island of Hokkaido, in the immediate days after the war.

More Details of Soviet Proposal

OW0710055590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0522 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 (KYODO)—The Soviet Union, in what appears to signal a fresh initiative for friendship with Japan, has proposed concluding an agreement which indicates willingness return two of four Soviet-held islands to Japan, political sources said Sunday.

The Soviet proposal calls for confirming the 1956 Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration, in which Moscow agreed to return Shikotan and the Habomais, two of four islands at issue, located east of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev hopes to sign the agreement in April when he visits Japan as the first Kremlin leader to do so, the sources said.

Japan's Foreign Ministry has long called for the package return of not only Shikotan and the Habomais but also Etorofu and Kunashiri Islands, all of which the Soviet Union seized immediately after Japan's surrender to allied powers in August 1945.

Soviet Foreign Ministry officials showed a seven-point outline of the agreement to Japanese officials during a meeting with a delegation sent by Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] last month.

It was the first time that the Soviet Union has indicated concrete steps toward concluding a bilateral peace pact with Japan, Japanese officials said.

The territorial dispute has been a stumbling block in the way of conclusion of the Japan-Soviet peace treaty. Japan has demanded return of all the four Soviet-occupied islands as a precondition for the treaty.

The 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, issued by then Japanese Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama and Soviet Premier Nikolay Bulganin, officially declared an end to the state of war and restored diplomatic ties between the two countries.

"The Soviet Union, paying respect for Japan's request and benefits, agrees to return the Habomai group and Shikotan island to Japan. But these islands are to be actually handed over after Japan and the Soviet Union conclude a peace treaty," says the document in Japanese and Russian.

However, the Soviet Union withdrew the promise later, citing changes in international situation, particularly the signing of the 1960 Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, and repeatedly said the territorial dispute was a closed book.

The Soviet Union softened its attitude over the territorial issue after Gorbachev came to power in 1985 and has come to listen to Japan's claims, Japanese officials said.

The proposed draft agreement also urges Japan and the Soviet Union to fulfill their respective roles and responsibilities toward stability and development of international society.

It also calls for expanding personnel exchanges, concluding a Japan-Soviet peace treaty three to five years after the two countries sign the proposed pact, and for promoting mutual efforts to help Soviet economic reform programs succeed.

Soviet officials presented the outline of the agreement to the LDP mission as a message to former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, who was originally due to head the delegation but cancelled the trip at the last moment for health reasons. In place of Abe, Keizo Obuchi, a former chief cabinet secretary, headed the delegation to Moscow September 20-26 and met with Gorbachev and his top aide Aleksander Yakovlev.

Ministry Welcomes Proposal

OW0710113790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—The Japanese Foreign Ministry has welcomed as a starting point to negotiations the Soviet Union's proposal to conclude an agreement which indicates its willingness to return two of four Soviet-held islands, ministry sources said Sunday.

The Soviet Union proposed the agreement on principles aimed at concluding a Japan-Soviet peace treaty on the basis of the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, in which Moscow agreed to return Shikotan and the Habomais, two of the four islands at issue, east of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

The Soviet Union showed a seven-point outline of the agreement when a delegation from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party visited Moscow in September. The proposed agreement calls for conclusion of the Japan-Soviet peace treaty three to five years after the agreement is concluded.

The ministry sources said the proposal showed a shift in the Soviet Union's stance on the territorial dispute and it could be a starting point in the negotiations.

As the proposal was offered to the LDP, the Japanese Government will sound out the Soviet Union on the proposal in intergovernmental talks, the sources said.

Japan has long called for the full return of not only Shikotan and the Habomais but also Etorofu and Kunashiri Islands, all of which the Soviet Union seized at the end of World War II.

Despite the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, the Soviet Union withdrew its promise to return the two islands after Japan and the United States signed their 1960 security treaty and had since been insisting there is no territorial issue between Japan and the Soviet Union.

The territorial dispute has been a stumbling block to the conclusion of the Japan-Soviet peace treaty.

Abe, Mitsuzuka Discuss Proposal

OW0710123990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Hakone, Kanagawa Pref., Oct. 7 KYODO—The Soviet Union, in what appears to signal a fresh initiative for friendship with Japan, has proposed concluding a basic agreement which indicates its willingness to return two of four Soviet-held islands to Japan.

Shintaro Abe, former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, revealed the Soviet offer at a seminar for his faction and Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, secretary general of the faction and former foreign minister, explained the proposal to reporters in detail on Sunday.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev hopes to sign the agreement in April when he visits Japan as the first Kremlin leader to do so, Abe said.

"It is a very important proposal. The government and the governing party must tackle it together to resolve the pending bilateral issue," said Abe, who was scheduled to visit Moscow in September for talks with Gorbachev but was forced to stay in Japan because of illness.

The Soviet proposal calls for confirming the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, in which Moscow agreed to return Shikotan and the Habomais, two of the four islands at issue, located east of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

It also calls for conclusion of a Japan-Soviet peace treaty three to five years after the two countries sign the basic accord.

It was the first time that the Soviet Union has indicated concrete steps toward concluding a bilateral peace pact with Japan, Japanese officials said.

The proposed draft agreement also urges Japan and the Soviet Union to fulfill their respective roles and responsibilities toward stability and development of international society. It also calls for expanding personnel exchanges and for promoting mutual efforts to help Soviet economic reform programs succeed.

Mitsuzuka said an aide to Gorbachev suddenly summoned him on September 24 when he was in Moscow as a member of an LDP delegation and conveyed the seven-point proposal verbally as a message to Abe, who was originally scheduled to lead the group.

Mitsuzuka did not identify the official but said that the senior Soviet official is ranked below presidential council members. The official assured him the proposal had been approved by the Soviet leadership, he said.

The Soviet offer was sent to Abe in a formal document in early October and the same proposal will be sent to the Foreign Ministry soon, Mitsuzuka said.

Japan has long called for the full return of not only Shikotan and the Habomais but also Etorofu and Kunashiri Islands, all of which the Soviet Union seized immediately after Japan's surrender to allied powers in August 1945.

The territorial dispute has been a stumbling block in the way of conclusion of the Japan-Soviet peace treaty.

Japan has demanded return of all four Soviet-occupied islands as a precondition for the treaty.

The 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, issued by then Japanese Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama and Soviet Premier Nikolay Bulganin, officially declared an end to the state of war and restored diplomatic ties between the two countries.

"The Soviet Union, paying respect to Japan's request and benefits, agrees to return the Habomai group and Shikotan Island to Japan. But these islands are to be actually handed over after Japan and the Soviet Union conclude a peace treaty," says the document in Japanese and Russian. However, the Soviet Union altered its stance later, citing changes in the international situation, particularly the signing of the 1960 Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, and repeatedly said the territorial dispute was a closed book.

The Soviet Union softened its attitude over the territorial issue after Gorbachev came to power in 1985 and has come to listen to Japan's claims, Japanese officials said.

Nakayama Welcomes Proposal

OW0710130390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Sunday welcomed the Soviet Union's proposal to conclude a basic agreement which indicates its willingness to return two of four Soviet-held islands to Japan as showing the Soviet Union's hope to improve relations with Japan.

The Soviet Union proposed the agreement on principles for concluding a Japan-Soviet peace treaty on the basis of the 1956 joint declaration, in which Moscow agreed to return Shikotan and the Habomais, two of the four islands at issue, east of Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido.

On the territorial dispute, Nakayama said the return of Shikotan and the Habomais Islands was legally agreed in the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration. The return of the two other islands, Kunashiri and Etorofu, is a pending territorial dispute, Nakayama said.

Nakayama said the government will sound out the Soviet Union on the proposal in inter-governmental talks.

Politburo Member on Proposal

OW0810085290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0756 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—A Soviet Communist Party Politburo member indicated Monday the Soviet Union is ready to negotiate with Japan over territorial disputes based on the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, in which Moscow agreed to return two of four Soviet-held islands to Japan.

Gennadiy Yanayev, Politburo member responsible for international affairs and party secretary, made the remarks at a Tokyo seminar in response to a question over a reported new Soviet proposal indicating a willingness to return Shikotan and the Habomais to Japan.

Shikotan and the Habomais [are] two of the four islands east of the northernmost main island of Hokkaido, which the Soviet Union occupied since the end of World War II.

Yanayev said he had not heard of the Soviet proposal that Shintaro Abe, former secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party, disclosed Sunday.

"The bilateral relationship was committed to paper in the 1956 Soviet-Japan joint declaration and I think both Japan and the Soviet Union can return to what was written in that document," Yanayev said. "As far as we (the Soviet Union) are concerned, the joint declaration is valid and we should return to it, he said.

Yanayev admitted the bilateral territorial dispute is the biggest stumbling block in the way of conclusion of a peace treaty between the two countries. "The two countries should give up a position of a choice between 'yes' or 'no' and make mutual concessions. The Soviet Union is of course ready to compromise," he said.

He said the planned visit to Japan by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in April next year will be a historic event.

Yanayev said it is "impossible to resolve all issues" through the Gorbachev visit. "The two countries will find a way by abandoning fixed ideas and launching a new dialogue," he said.

The new Soviet proposal calls for the signing of a basic accord to confirm the joint declaration when Gorbachev visits Japan next April. It also calls for conclusion of a Japan-Soviet peace treaty three or five years after the two countries sign the basic accord. [passage omitted]

Yanayev called for economic assistance from Japan, saying that economic and political instability in the Soviet Union is detrimental to Japan.

He said he understands Japan is cautious in the short-term perspective toward its economic cooperation with the Soviet Union. "But there will be nothing more to Japan's advantage than perestroyka in the long-term perspective," he said.

Yanayev Says No 'Guarantee'

OW0910120090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1130 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—A Soviet Communist Party Politburo member said Tuesday the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration could be the basis for a Japan-Soviet peace treaty, but suggested it does not guarantee the return of two of four Soviet- held islands to Japan.

Gennadiy Yanayev, a Politburo member responsible for international affairs and a party secretary, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that the long-pending territorial issue between the two nations, which stands in the way of concluding a Japan-Soviet peace treaty, should be resolved as part of efforts to improve overall relations, including expansion of economic ties. [passage omitted]

Yanayev said the principles of the 1956 declaration will provide a basis for bilateral negotiations to conclude a peace treaty, but he said adhering to the paper would not necessarily result in the immediate return of the two islands.

He said he could neither confirm nor deny reports that Soviet officials had offered fresh proposals to the Japanese side. News reports had indicated Soviets might be willing to return the two islands. The Soviet Foreign Ministry on Monday issued a statement denying such reports.

"Some of the principles in the declaration could serve as a foundation for the draft for the peace treaty, but the current reaction in Japan (concerning the reported proposals) threatens to mislead reality with expectations," Yanayev said. "The declaration was signed within the context of the political situation at the time and cannot be applied to the present unconditionally," he added.

Yanayev noted some new developments in Japanese-Soviet relations, including the creation of confidence-building measures proposed last month by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to pave the way for Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev next April.

"It is necessary to forge a new infrastructure for mutual confidence," Yanayev said. He cited expanded economic cooperation between the two nations as a major component to establishing such improved relations.

Japan has withheld full-scale economic cooperation to the Soviet Union until the territorial dispute is resolved and the peace treaty is concluded.

"Both sides need to compromise and promote specific negotiations, incorporating new elements emerging in the bilateral relations," Yanayev said.

Government 'Not Informed' by LDP

OW0910103990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1023 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—The Japanese Government was not informed by a faction of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of a Soviet proposal reportedly made last month to revive a 1956 joint declaration providing for the transfer to Japan of two disputed islands, a Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday.

"About this issue, we had not been informed," spokesman Taizo Watanabe told foreign correspondents.

Former LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe announced Sunday at a meeting of his faction members that the Soviets had made the proposal in September during the visit of an LDP delegation to Moscow.

Watanabe indicated that the reported proposal was kept even from Takehiro Togo, a senior Foreign Ministry official directly in charge of Soviet affairs, who had accompanied the LDP delegation to Moscow. "We had been consulted about the logistics and the overall outline and scope of the talks...but (not) about this issue," Watanabe said.

The Soviets have strenuously denied Abe's claims about the proposal, both publicly and through official channels, leading Watanabe to issue an unprecedented call later Tuesday for a renewed emphasis on "quiet government-to-government diplomacy" between the two countries.

Meanwhile, Shin Kanemaru, head of the faction established by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, complained to reporters Tuesday that his faction was also kept in the dark despite the fact that one of its members, former Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi, led the delegation to Moscow. Kanemaru revealed that his faction has lodged a protest with the Abe faction over the silence of delegation member Hiroshi Mistuzuka, a former foreign minister and a leading figure in the Abe faction.

One observer said the information was likely kept quiet so that Abe, who is known to aspire to the premiership, could announce it at his faction meeting as something of a coup.

Spokesman Urges 'Quiet' Diplomacy

OW0910123390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Japan's territorial dispute with the Soviet Union should be resolved through "quiet" diplomatic efforts between the two governments, a Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday.

The call by Spokesman Taizo Watanabe came in the wake of the diplomatic turbulance created by Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) faction leader Shintaro Abe's announcement on Sunday that the Soviets have offered to resurrect a 1956 joint declaration providing for the transfer of two disputed islands to Japan.

Watanabe told reporters that if the territorial problem is to be resolved, "it is important to continue quiet talks in the context of peace treaty negotiations on a government-to-government basis. All responsible proposals should be made and discussed in this forum ...if the Soviets have something in mind," he said.

Watanabe was believed to be sending a signal to both the Soviets and Japanese politicians that the diplomatic channel between the two governments should not be circumvented.

He acknowledged that the Foreign Ministry had been kept in the dark about the alleged Soviet proposal, even though a senior official had accompanied the LDP delegation to Moscow at the time it was purportedly made.

Meanwhile, Watanabe revealed that earlier in the day Moscow informed Japan through diplomatic channnels that it has "nothing to add" to an official announcement by Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov. Gerasimov, in what has been widely interpreted as a refutation of Abe's announcement, told reporters Monday that the Soviet side did not hand over any document concerning the disputed islands to the LDP delegation during their stay in Moscow as KYODO NEWS SERVICE had reported.

But KYODO in fact quoted delegation member Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, an Abe-faction member and former foreign minister, as saying Sunday that the Soviet proposal was conveyed "verbally" during the delegation's visit to Moscow. Mitsuzuka said the proposal was received in written form in early October after the delegation's return to Tokyo.

DPRK Compensation for 'Postwar Losses' Hinted

OW0510143390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1400 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 5 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama hinted on Friday that Japan may compensate North Korea for its "postwar losses" as pledged by a high-powered Japanese political mission last week.

Nakayama said the issue of compensation would have been settled in 1965 if there had been only one government on the Korean peninsula. Japan extended 500 million dollars in economic assistance to South Korea that year when Tokyo and Seoul established diplomatic ties.

The foreign minister, speaking at a session of the House of Representatives' Security Committee, said Japan will take this into consideration when it enters into negotiations with North Korea.

On September 28, the Japanese mission, co-led by powerful conservative politician Shin Kanemaru and Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe, signed a joint declaration with the ruling Korean Workers' Party (KWP) calling for inter governmental talks between Tokyo and Pyongyang to establish diplomatic ties.

The declaration said Kanemaru's Liberal Democratic Party, the JSP and the KWP "consider that Japan should fully and officially apologize and compensate to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) for the enormous misfortunes and miseries imposed upon the Korean people for 36 years and the losses inflicted upon the Korean people in the ensuing 45 years after the war."

The "36 years" refers to Japan's colonial rule of the Korean peninsula from 1910-1945.

Nakayama, however, reiterated the Japanese Government position that it would be difficult to accept the North Korean demand for compensation over "losses" inflicted by Japan during the 45 postwar years, in light of "internationally shared common sense."

Nakayama said Japan and North Korea must discuss ways to compensate Pyongyang for the delay in Japan's paying damages for its colonial rule at the upcoming intergovernmental negotiations aimed at establishing diplomatic ties.

Kanemaru Apologizes to No for 'Misunderstanding'

OW0810181490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1619 GMT 08 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 8 KYODO—Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru said he apologized Monday to South Korean President No Tae-u for "causing misunderstanding" to the South Korean people over a Japanese-North Korean joint declaration he signed last month. Kanemaru, returning from a one-day visit to Seoul, said he told No that he had no intention of causing any embarrassment to the government or people of South Korea.

During their two hours of talks in the South Korean capital, No showed understanding of Kanemaru's explanations, he said. Kanemaru quoted No as saying, "I am grateful for your dispelling my misunderstanding."

Kanemaru visited Pyongyang from September 24-28 as head of a delegation from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], together with a Japan Socialist Party [JSP] delegation led by JSP Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe.

The LDP, JSP and the (North) Korean Workers' Party issued the joint declaration, calling for early intergovernmental talks on the establishment of diplomatic ties between Japan and North Korea.

Kanemaru, one of the most influential politicians in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, said he told No that his promise of Japanese compensation to North Korea for its "losses" during the 45 postwar years was made out of political considerations and does not necessarily mean that Tokyo will pay compensation to Pyongyang.

Kanemaru also said he assured No that the joint declaration does not bind the Japanese Government while the matter of Japanese economic assistance does come under the authority of the government.

Kanemaru was referring to Seoul's expression of doubt over a clause in the joint declaration which said, "The three parties consider that Japan should fully and officially apologize and compensate to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) for the enormous misfortunes and miseries imposed upon the Korean people for 36 years and the losses inflicted upon the Korean people in the ensuing 45 years after the war."

The joint declaration called for early inter-governmental talks on establishment of relations between Japan and North Korea. It also said, "Korea is one," which South Korea argues is a euphemism for unification of the Korean peninsula under North Korean terms.

Kanemaru said he apologized to No for having ignored the Japanese and South Korean Governments in promising Japanese compensation for "postwar losses" to North Korea. But he said the Japanese mission had no means of communication with the government in Tokyo.

Kanemaru said he had no intention of opening normalization talks with North Korea without consulting Japan's long-term friends the United States and South Korea.

Kanemaru said he told No that peace and stability cannot be achieved in Asia if North Korea remains isolated.

No told Kanemaru that Japan should consult closely with South Korea before opening negotiations with North Korea. The president also said improved Japanese-North Korean ties should contribute to inter-Korean dialogue.

No said Japan should open diplomatic relations with North Korea only after Pyongyang accepts inspections of its nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

No also said Japan should not extend aid to North Korea before normalizing diplomatic relations, according to Kanemaru. He said South Korea would oppose Japanese aid to North Korea if it would boost Pyongyang's military capability.

No also told Kanemaru that South Korea hopes Japan will urge North Korea to recognize its responsibility as a member of the international community.

Hungarian Economic Official Urges Cooperation

OW0910153290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1446 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Hungarian International Economic Relations Minister Bela Kadar on Tuesday called on Japan to step up economic cooperation with his country to help Budapest get out of an economic plight.

Kadar made the call in a meeting with Japanese reporters at the Japan National Press Club. He arrived in Japan Monday for talks with Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and other senior Japanese Government officials on economic relations between the two countries.

"Japan and Hungary have much greater potential to expand economic cooperation as good partners," Kadar said, adding that the two countries maintain close cultural contacts and Hungarian and Japanese people have a similar view of life.

The 56-year-old minister said Hungary's economic plight has worsened as its exports to former East European Communist allies have decreased—by 33 percent in the first nine months of this year. Hungary has also been hit by the surge of crude oil prices triggered by the Persian Gulf crisis, Kadar said.

The former university economics professor said Hungary has made every effort to switch its semicentralized planned economy into a full-fledged market-oriented economy to induce Japan and other industrial countries to invest in the Central European nation.

Hungary intends to privatize national assets equivalent to 1.3-1.8 billion dollars over the next 18 months, he said, adding that Budapest will also liberalize imports of more than 90 percent of goods it buys from abroad by the end of 1992.

Former NTT Chairman 'Guilty' in Recruit Case

OW0910013190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0108 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—The Tokyo District Court Tuesday found former Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) Board Chairman Hisashi Shinto guilty of taking bribes from Recruit Co. through gains from 10,000 pre-flotation shares of a subsidiary of the information conglomerate.

Presiding Judge Ken Toyota sentenced Shinto, 80, to a two-year jail term, suspended for three years, and ordered him to pay 22.7 million yen in fine in line with the demand made by the prosecution.

It was the second court ruling of five trials with 12 defendants in the Recruit influence-peddling scandal which rocked the government and prompted the resignation of former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita in April last year. The defendants include former Chief Cabinet Secretary Takao Fujinami and ex-Recruit Chairman Hiromasa Ezoe.

According to prosecutors, Shinto met Ezoe in August 1985 and promised him his full support in Recruit's business reselling communications circuits leased from NTT.

The former NTT chief was also asked by Ezoe in September 1985 to have NTT buy a U.S. supercomputer for Recruit. Recruit purchased two Cray supercomputers through NTT between December 1986 and January 1988, the prosecutors said.

In the 11-month trial, Shinto admitted that he bought 10,000 shares in Recruit Cosmos Co., a Recruit subsidiary specializing in land development, from Ezoe and knew that they would go up in value once they were listed on the over-the-counter market. But he denied any involvement in bribery.

The stocks were bought for 30 million yen with loans from a Recruit-affiliated finance company in September 1986 and sold for 52 million yen soon after being listed on the market October 30 the same year, according to prosecutors.

Recruit paid 21 million yen as profit on the stock transaction into the secretary's bank account November 5. Of this amount, 9 million yen was transferred to Shinto's personal bank account, prosecutors said.

Shinto's defense counsel said the 9 million yen was spent on politicians and purchases of tickets for political fund-raising parties. The remaining 12 million yen was allocated to NTT's political fund, he said.

Under the law whereby NTT was privatized in 1984, its officials are subject to the same legal measures as government employees regarding bribery. Shinto, however, denied the bribery charges, arguing he was following normal Japanese business practice.

Ezoe is accused of having sold stock from its Recruit Cosmos real estate affiliate to a select group of politicians, businessmen, and others before the affiliate's shares were publicly listed in October 1986. These stock purchasers were able to reap huge profits after the listing.

In March, Shigeru Kano, 57, a former director at the Labor Ministry's Employment Service Division, was also found guilty by the district court of being wined and dined by Recruit Co. in exchange for favors to the information conglomerate.

Mongolia

Gombosuren Attends UN General Assembly Session

OW0710114490 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Mongolian Foreign Minister Gombosuren, who is taking part in the ongoing 45th session of the United Nations General Assembly, has met with foreign ministers of Poland, Iran, South Korea, Romania, Hungary, Austria, Singapore, Afghanistan, and also with deputy foreign ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany and France. The ministers discussed international and bilateral questions.

Mr. Gombosuren has also met with the UN deputy director and had talks on bilateral cooperation. Mongolian foreign minister has also taken part in an unofficial meeting of foreign ministers of the Asian-Pacific region countries, which was held at the initiative of Japan and Indonesia. Representatives of 15 countries have exchanged views on the situation in the region.

Coverage Continues on State Small Hural Session

Spokesman Holds News Conference

OW0410151890 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] A spokesman of the Mongolian Government has held a press conference for Mongolian and foreign journalists on the first results of the ongoing session of the State Small Hural, the parliament. He informed the journalists of the structure and membership of the new Cabinet of Ministers which now consists of 16 members—11 ministers, chairman of the only state committee, the prime minister, and three vice premiers. Foreign minister of the new cabinet has not yet been determined as head of the Mongolian Foreign Ministry of the previous government Mr. Gombosuren is now taking part in the ongoing United Nations General Assembly session.

It was noted at the press conference that 50 percent of MPs are qualified experts having academic degrees. The youngest member is 31 and the oldest is 50 years old.

Badzarhuu Opposed as Finance Minister

OW0410140790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The MONTSAME NEWS AGENCY informs that the ongoing session of the State Small Hural of Mongolia has opposed Mr. Badzarhuu as minister of finance. He headed the Ministry of Finance of the previous government.

The MPs held quite different opinion concerning the issue of forming a commission on working out a new constitution of Mongolia. Well, the State Small Hural has decided to hold preliminary debate on this issue in the permanent committee.

Constitution Commission Formed

OW0710105690 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] The ongoing session of the State Small Hural, the parliament of Mongolia, has formed a commission which will be responsible for working out the new draft constitution of Mongolia. President of Mongolia P. Ochirbat has been approved as head of the commission. The session has also discussed the question of establishing new system of public control instead of the dismissed previous one.

Session Ends; Outcome Noted

OW0710083190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The resumed session of the State Small Hural, or the parliament, has ended in Ulaanbaatar. The main outcome of the session was the foundation of the new Cabinet of Ministers represented by four political parties of Mongolia—the ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, the Mongolian Democratic Party, the National Progressive Party, and the Mongolian Green Party.

Session To Resume Nov

OW0810124990 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Vice President of Mongolia, Chairman of the State Small Hural Gonchigdorj has held a press conference in Ulaanbaatar on the outcome of the first parliamentary session which ended last Friday [5 October]. The vice president said that the session formed a Cabinet of Ministers, as well as the Supreme Court and the Office of Public Prosecutor. People's auditing bodies have been dismissed by the State Small Hural resolution. The session passed the law on guarantee for militiaman and the staff of reformatory bodies when on duty and called off the 1957 Law on Taxation of Single and Childless people. The session formed a commission on working out a new draft constitution headed by President Ochirbat.

The State Small Hural will resume its session in mid-November, said the vice president.

Meeting on 'Key Problems' of Party Policy Held

OW0710101590 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] A meeting on the key problems of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party policy and the principled guidelines of the party renewal has been held at the Political and Cultural Center in Ulaanbaatar, timed to the beginning of a new academic year of the Higher Political School. Speaking there, department head of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, Mr. (Yatim Suren), dealt with the key problems of the party renewal.

North Korea

No Agreements Reached on U.N. Membership

SK0510154090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Panmunjom October 5 (KCNA)—The second contact of delegates to the North-South High-Level Talks to discuss the question of single U.N. membership of the North and the South was held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom today according to an agreement reached between the sides at the first high-level talks.

The contact took place in camera.

After the contact, our side's delegate Choe U-chin told the reporters that at today's contact our side earnestly explained the realistic and reasonable nature of our proposal for the North and the South to jointly enter the United Nations with one seat, which was made by our side at the first contact of delegates on September 18.

He said:

The realistic and reasonable nature of our proposal lies firstly in that it is a proposal wholly serving for the reunification of the country.

Secondly, this proposal most correctly reflects our people's ardent desire for reunification and the present state of the North-South relations.

Thirdly, it fully accords with the demand of the U.N. Charter and the resolution of the U.N. General Assembly.

Fourthly, full consideration is given in our proposal also to the proposal of the South side on the U.N. membership.

When we clarified our stand of entering the United Nations as one member before the country's reunification is achieved we took the South side's argument into full consideration. It is a big concession and compromise aimed at resolving the problem.

Especially, ours is a proposal fully reflecting the South side's calls for cooperating with each other for the common interests of the nation in the international arena and for ending the hectic confrontation and competition between the North and the South.

The delegate of the North side told newsmen that the delegate of the South side, however, describing the relations between the North and the South as relations between states, alleged that even if the two sides reached an agreement on the North side's proposal of sharing one seat in the United Nations, it is an "unrealistic and infeasible issue inconsistent with the legal conditions of the U.N. Charter."

Saying that the North side's views on some argument of the South side were clearly manifested, he went on:

Firstly, the South side claims that the main point in North-South relations is "recognition of entity." To argue about "recognition of entity" at a time when reunification is seen in the offing and, especially, efforts are being made to solve the reunification question through dialogue cannot be construed otherwise than an intention to throw a wet blanket over the dialogue and create new grave obstacles in its way.

Secondly, the South side claimed that the question of U.N. membership has nothing to do with the relations between the North and the South. The question of U.N. membership is wholly and directly linked with the question of national reunification which is an important internal affair of the nation pertaining to the fate of the country and the nation.

The agreement on discussing the question of the North and the South entering the U.N. as one member at the contact between delegates, which was reached at the first inter-Korean high-level talks, also proceeded from the fact that the South side regarded the question of U.N. membership as one of relations between the North and the South.

It is well worth noting that the South side stated that if the North do not agree to its proposal for "simultaneous entry" into the United Nations, it had no other choice but to seek "unilateral entry" into the U.N., irrespective of North-South dialogue. We cannot but pay serious attention to it.

As such attitude of the South side is one going against the favourably developing North-South relations and the growing desire for reunification, it will never be tolerated.

Thirdly, the South side, with regard to our proposal that the rights of voting and speech be exercised according to the agreement between the North and the South, said it is "unrealistic" in the view of the fact that there is no correspondence between the sides. If so, does it mean that various issues brought forward by the South side at the first North-South High-Level Talks are infeasible and unrealistic?

Noting that if the North and the South take the stand of reconciliation, unity and reunification, the U.N. membership problem can be fully solved, our side's delegate said that at today's contact the sides had detailed discussions of our proposal, but they failed to reach any agreement owing to the unreasonable assertion of the South side.

It was agreed to hold the third contact in the near future and discuss and fix its date between the chief liaison officials of the delegations to the North-South High-Level Talks, he said.

South's Cry for U.N. Membership Denounced

SK0510152290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1458 GMT5 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 5 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today denounces the unscrupulous moves of the South Korean authorities for a permanent division of the nation these days.

A news analyst of the paper says:

The South Korean rulers dispatched the "foreign minister" to the United Nations where he cried for South Korea's "unilateral U.N. membership" or "simultaneous admission of the North and the South to the U.N." and, at the same time, instructed the South Korean ambassador to the U.N. to distribute to the U.N. member nations a literature propagandizing the justness of South Korea's "unilateral admission to the U.N."

They even complain about the wording that Korea is one and the North and the South must achieve peaceful reunification through dialogue, mumbling that it accords the policy of the North.

Judging from the current moves of the South Korean authorities, they want the North and the South to live separated forever, "recognising" and "freezing" the state of division.

This shows to what grave extent the South Korean authorities have gone in their bid for a permanent division of the nation. They have long since been bent on the creation of "two Koreas", talking about "northern policy," "cross recognition" and "admission to the U.N." and doggedly opposing reunification. Their complaint about the wording that the North and the South should achieve peaceful reunification through dialogue is an act of throwing a wet blanket over the North-South High-Level Talks, a criminal act totally denying the reunification dialogue itself.

If the South Korean rulers persist in the creation of "two Koreas," running against the sweeping current of the nation toward reunification, they will face a stern judgement by the nation which desires the reunification of the country.

Second Contact Regarding UN Membership Viewed

SK0710060890 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] According to an agreement reached between both sides at the first high-level talks, the second contact of delegates to the North-South High-Level Talks to discuss the question of the North and South entering the United Nations with one seat was held yesterday at 1000 at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

The contact was attended by Cho U-chin, delegate to the North-South High-Level Talks, who is a roving ambassador in the Foreign Ministry, and two suite members from our side; and by a delegate and two suite members from the South side. Reporters of the North, the South, and foreign countries came to Panmunjom to cover the contact.

The contact took place in camera.

After the contact, our side's delegate Choe U-chin told reporters: Our side came to the second contact of delegates with the expectation that the South side would positively respond to our proposal for a joint entry of the North and the South into the United Nations with one seat, which was made by our side at the first contact of delegates on 18 September. He said the South side, however, did not change its first stand, but instead demanded as usual simultaneous and separate entry into the United Nations.

He said he earnestly explained the realistic and reasonable nature of our proposal so as to seek to reach an agreed point at the second contact of delegates.

First, the realistic and reasonable nature of our proposal for the North and the South to enter the United Nations with one seat lies in that it is a proposal entirely serving the reunification of the country.

If the North and the South enter the United Nations with one seat, this means a reunification of the North and the South at the international arena. However, if the North and the South separately enter the United Nations and if only one side enters the United Nations, this means the justification of the two Koreas internationally, thus serving the division of the country.

If the North and the South jointly enter the United Nations with one seat, in the light of both sides' activities, both sides will act in a unified manner on the basis of mutual reconciliation and unity. Thus, the condition of confrontation will be removed and, thus, only cooperation will be promoted between the North and the South.

Considering such a standpoint, everyone can obviously decide which will serve reunification and which will serve division among a proposal for simultaneous entry into the United Nations; a proposal for separate entry into the United Nations, which contains elements of confrontation; and a proposal for entry into the United Nations with one seat, which only contains elements of cooperation.

Second, our proposal is realistic and reasonable and one which most correctly reflects our people's desire for reunification and the current situation of North-South relations.

At present, all our fellow countrymen are filled with the ardent desire to achieve national reunification in the 1990's without fail. The premier-led North-South High-Level Talks were held for the first time since the division, and agreements on holding the North-South soccer game for reunification and the pan-national music festival for reunification were reached. In addition, other unprecedented phenomena took place, including the joint cheering group at the international sports games. Thus, all our fellow countrymen's desire for reunification is mounting higher than ever before.

Such being the case, it is reasonable for the North and the South to jointly enter the United Nations with one seat, according to the development of the current situation.

The North and the South have existed for the past approximately 40 years without entering the United Nations. Thus, at a time when reunification is in the offing, the insistence to separately enter the United Nations cannot be interpreted otherwise than ignoring reality.

Third, our proposals fully conform to the UN Charter and resolution of the UN General Assembly.

The UN Charter stipulates that maintenance of peace and stability is the goal of the United Nations. This means that the UN Charter itself demands that the North the South enter the United Nations, under the conditions in which the North and the South should guarantee reconciliation and peace on the Korean peninsula.

If the North and the South enter the United Nations with one seat, they will be able to jointly negotiate and deal with all questions arising at the UN arena. As a result, the North-South confrontation will be converted into relations of reconciliation and unity. Thus, the tension between the North and the South naturally will be alleviated and peace and stability will be promoted.

In addition, our proposal conforms to the UN resolution. The question of divided countries' entry into the United Nations is different from that of reunified and independent countries' entry into the United Nations. Thus, the United Nations prudently treats the question of UN entry of temporarily-divided countries, in which a question of reunification has been put forward.

At the 10th session of the UN General Assembly, the United Nations thought it improper to allow those divided countries like Korea and Vietnam to enter the United Nations. In addition, the United Nations believed the question of promoting reunification of divided countries to be the most important duty of the United Nations.

Proceeding from such a standpoint, our proposal has enjoyed support from many global UN-membership countries.

Fourth, our proposal also fully considers the proposal of the South in connection with the entry into the United Nations.

When we clarified our stand of entering the United Nations with one seat before reunification of the country is achieved, we took the South side's demand into full consideration. This is a big concession and compromise aimed at resolving a question.

In particular, our proposal fully reflects the South side's calls for cooperating with each other for the common interest of the nation in the international arena and for putting an end to the useless confrontation and competition between the North and the South.

Whether our most realistic and reasonable proposal is accepted depends on the South side's correct standpoint, will, and effort toward reunification.

Our side's delegate said that the South side's delegate, however, describing the relations between the North and the South as relations between states, alleged that even if both sides reached an agreement on our side's proposal for entering the United Nations with one seat, it is an unrealistic and infeasible issue inconsistent with the legal conditions of the UN Charter.

Saying he will clearly clarify our views on some of the South side's argument, our side's delegate continued:

First, the South side claims that the main point in the North-South relations is recognition of entity. Arguing about recognition of entity, at a time when reunification is seen in the offing and, in particular, when efforts are being made to settle the reunification question through dialogue, cannot be construed otherwise than an intention to throw a wet blanket over the dialogue and to create new grave obstacles in its way.

The recognition of entity, which the South side put forward, cannot be interpreted other than as justifying the two Koreas and proclaiming the two Koreas through negotiations between the North and the South, instead of achieving reunification by putting an end to division.

The recognition of entity, which the South side put forward, is a question which can be acceptable in mutual relations among states in international relations. Thus, the South side should clearly know that it cannot be a question acceptable to a country which temporally has been divided by foreign forces.

Second, the South side claimed that the question of entry into the United Nations has nothing to do with the relations between the North and the South. The question of entry into the United Nations is entirely and directly linked with the question of national reunification which is an important internal affair of the nation pertaining to the fate of the country and the nation.

The agreement on discussing the question of the North and the South over entering the United Nations with one seat at the contact of delegates, which was reached at the first North-South High-Level Talks, also proceeded from the fact that the South side regarded the question of the United Nations as one of relations between the North and the South.

In particular, we must pay serious attention to the fact that the South side stated that if we do not agree to its proposal for simultaneous entry into the United Nations, it had no other choice but to seek unilateral entry into the United Nations, irrespective of the North-South dialogue.

As such attitude of the South side is one going against the favorably developing the North-South relations and the growing desire for reunification, it will never be tolerated.

Third, with regard to our proposal that the rights of voting and speech be exercised according to the agreement between the two sides, the South side said that our proposal is unrealistic in view of the reality in which a letter cannot be exchanged between the North and the South. If so, does it mean that various issues brought forward by the South side at the first North-South High-Level Talks are not feasible and unrealistic?

Stressing that if the North and the South take the stand of reconciliation, unity, and reunification, the question of entering the United Nations can smoothly be settled, our side's delegate pointed out that at today's contact, the two sides began to discuss the detailed contents of our proposal, but they failed to reach any agreement owing to the South side's unreasonable assertion.

Our side's delegate said it was agreed to hold the third contact in the near future and to fix its date through negotiations between responsible liaison officials to the North-South High-Level Talks.

Article on South's Reunification Intention

SK0610102590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 6 Oct 90

["Hidden Daggers Must Be Thrown Away for Confidence-Building"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—If mutual confidence is to be built, the hidden daggers must be thrown away.

If the South Korean authorities truly want to build confidence and have the intention to resolve the reunification question in conformity with the desire of the nation, they should discard the anti-national stance and show their sincerity to remove political and military confrontation, says NODONG SINMUN today in an article titled "Lay Down Dagger for Trust."

The signed article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as teaching:

"The key to a new breakthrough for national reunification in the present situation is to relax the sharp political confrontation and military tensions at the earliest possible date and to create an atmosphere of sincere trust in the nation."

It continues:

At the North-South High-Level Talks on the agenda "on the removal of the political and military confrontation between the North and the South and realization of multi-faceted cooperation and exchange" our side made concrete realistic proposals for the removal of political and military confrontation, attaching essential importance to it.

This is an expression of our sincere stand to promote national reconciliation and confidence and achieve reunification at an early date.

The South Korean authorities, however, put emphasis only on the problems of economic exchange and cooperation and humanitarianism, slighting or shunning the removal of political and military confrontation and the danger of war whose settlement is urgently awaited at North-South dialogue. This is, in fact, tantamount to refusing those problems themselves.

What is the ulterior intention of the South Korean authorities in taking such wrong stance?

They mean to while away the time with trade between the two parts, leaving the present division as it is, and eventually legalise the permanent split of the country.

As for exchange and cooperation between the North and the South in the economy, culture and all other realms of the society, we have long since called for them. We hold that only when exchange and cooperation are promoted along with the removal of the political and military confrontation, with stress on the latter, can they be effective.

If we neglect such basic question as the removal of the political and military confrontation and seek only exchange and cooperation, dreaming of the creation of "two Koreas" through the "fixation of the status quo" as the South Korean authorities assert, it is to mock the nation over the reunification question and disappoint the fellow countrymen who are earnestly longing for national reunification.

Paper Criticizes Choe Ho-chung's Remarks

SK0610045790 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0435 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—South Korean "Foreign Minister" Choe Ho-chung, when interviewed by a correspondent of the Soviet paper IZVESTIYA after an agreement on the establishment of "diplomatic relations" between South Korea and the Soviet Union was reached, reportedly said the North must become aware of the urgency of "restructuring", "openness" and "reform" and he is "concerned for the rights, freedom and happiness" of the citizens in the North.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today brands his outburst as another provocation against the North in the international arena.

It is also a sophism of those who seek to cover up the enormous anti-national crimes they have committed in a bid to legalize "two Koreas" worldwide through "cross recognition" and "U.N. membership" and a rigmarole that revealed the base intention of the imperialists' stooges to lead the North to "opening" and "reform" and overthrow the socialist system in the northern half of Korea, the news analyst says, and continues:

It is South Korea that needs reform and restructuring.

The colonial social system and the military fascist dictatorship maintained in South Korea are objects of quick reform and restructuring.

As for freedom, rights and happiness of the people, it is also South Korea where all of these are virtually violated.

The people in the northern half of the country are fully enjoying an independent and creative life befitting the true master of the state and society in the socialist system built by themselves under the wise leadership of the party and the leader. They are all satisfied with and deeply attached to their happy and worthy socialist life.

But it is quite different in South Korea.

The disgusting acts of the South Korean rulers show that they are trying to get something in meekly following the U.S. imperialists' aggressive strategy to disintegrate the socialist countries, motivated by the strategy of "peaceful transition". They would be well advised to give up the foolish daydream now.

If the South Korean authorities, instead of reforming the colonial military fascist system as demanded by the people, try to play a trick, casting his covetous eyes on others, their fate will not be safe.

The South Korean authorities must look straight at the reality and act with discretion.

Discussion of Coming Joint Concert Proposed

SK0610152490 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1516 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a telephone message to Kim Sang-hyop, president of the South Korean Red Cross.

The message says that a liaison official of our side will be sent to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 3 p.m. on October 8 (Monday) to discuss working matters on the participation of the South side's musicians in the pan-national music concert for reunification slated from October 18 in Pyongyang.

Musicians' Arrangements Set

SK0810165090 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1627 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Panmunjom October 8 (KCNA)—A contact between liaison officials of the North and the South was held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at three this afternoon with regard to the Pyongyang visit of a group of South Korean musicians for the pan-national concert for reunification.

The sides discussed matters concerning their visit to Pyongyang and agreed on the coming to Pyongyang of 17 people through Panmunjom at 11:00 on October 14 and on their itinerary in Pyongyang.

Liaison Contact for N-S Soccer Games Proposed

SK0610153290 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1518 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the DPRK State Sports Commission, sent a telephone message to the South Korean Sports Minister Chong Tong-song today.

The message notified him that a liaison official of our side would be sent to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at ten on the morning of October 8 (Monday) to discuss working matters concerning the North-South reunification soccer games.

Itinerary for Team Agreed Upon

SK0810163090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1622 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Panmunjom October 8 (KCNA)—Contact between working officials took place at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom on October 8 to discuss matters related to the North-South Reunification Soccer Games.

They discussed matters concerning the sojourn of the soccer teams of the South side and its suite members in Pyongyang.

An agreement was reached at the contact on the itinerary of the soccer teams of the South side and its suite members in Pyongyang. According to it, they will arrive in Pyongyang from Beijing on October 9 by plane, play soccer games for the reunification of the North and the South at the May Day Stadium on the afternoon of October 11 and go back to South Korea through Panmunjom on October 13.

Chief to High-Level Talks Seeks Contact 9 Oct

SK0610153690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—Choe Pong-chun, chief liaison official of the North side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks, today sent a telephone message to his South side's counterpart Kim Yong-hwan.

Proposing to hold a contact between chief liaison officials of the sides at Tongil House in the North side's portion of Panmunjom at 10, A.M. on October 9 (Tuesday), the message hoped for an affirmative response from the South side.

South Making Deliberate 'Moves To Foil' Talks

SK0710095090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 7 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities illegally infiltrated a destroyer deep into the territorial waters west of Changsangot in the West Sea of our side from Paeknyong Islet on October 4 for the purpose of hostile acts against peaceful fishing boats of our side.

This brigandish criminal act, following the South Korean authorities' rearrangement of "army system" into an offensive one, is a deliberate and premeditated move to throw a wet blanket over an atmosphere of reunification created in the North and the South, lay an artificial obstacle to the North-South High-Level Talks arranged with much care and aggravate the tension on the Korean peninsula, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed commentary today.

Earlier, they infiltrated a fighter plane into the sky above our side from the lower reaches of the river Yesong to strafe a post of our People's Army and a residential area, the commentary notes, and goes on:

These military provocations committed by the South Korean authorities are the criminal acts never to be condoned.

These acts cannot be construed otherwise than planned and deliberate moves to foil the North-South High-Level Talks itself.

The people and People's Army soldiers in the northern half of the country are now following the war provocation moves of the South Korean authorities with heightened revolutionary vigilance.

If the South Korean authorities continue to resort to confrontation and war manoeuvres, they will bear full responsibility for grave consequences arising therefrom.

U.S. Defense Official's Remarks Denounced

SK0610220090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—The U.S. deputy defence secretary told the Japanese paper ASAHI SHIMBUN on October 4 that "the U.S. military presence in the Far East will continue as long as it is necessary and the United States wants it", revealing the intention to keep the U.S. imperialist aggression forces in South Korea indefinitely, according to a report.

It must not be overlooked that he, explaining "reason" to keep the U.S. forces in the Far East including South Korea, said this is because "there is no sign that the DPRK is heading for democratisation and liberal economy".

It means that the U.S. forces should remain in South Korea till the DPRK is capitalized.

What an arrogant and disgusting rigmarole of the aggressor it is. Such jargon can spew forth only from the mouth of such brigands as the U.S. imperialist aggressors who are accustomed to attempt to dominate the world with power, force their brigandish will upon others and overthrow whatever falling out of their favor by all means and methods.

Through his provocative utterances the deputy secretary of defence made it plain that the presence of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces in South Korea is aimed at keeping hold on South Korea as their permanent colony and military base, freezing the division of Korea and, further, overthrowing the socialist system established in the northern half of Korea.

His jargon about "necessity of the U.S. military existence" is an undisguised provocation against the Korean people who desire peace and reunification and a challenge to the trend of the time.

U.S. Request on Nuclear Safeguards Assailed

SK0710054090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0025 GMT 7 Oct 90

[NODONG SINMUN 7 October commentary: "Aggressor's Brigandish Request"]

[Text] U.S. Ambassador to South Korea Gregg has revealed the U.S. attitude of not hoping for improved relations between the DPRK and the United States, and of continuously pursuing a nuclear strategy.

Gregg reportedly babbled that it is a precondition for improving DPRK-U.S. relations for us to sign a safeguard agreement that accompanies the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons. He said unless we sign a safeguard agreement, relations between us and the United States cannot improve. This is a tyrannical attitude and an unforgivable provocative statement designed to force upon us an unreasonable precondition on relations between the DPRK and the United States.

Gregg tried to lead the world into mistakenly believing that we refuse to sign a safeguard agreement. This is not true. One signs the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons and a safeguards agreement that accompanies this treatv, in a word, to remove nuclear threats and ensure peace and stability. Therefore, we signed this treaty and have made efforts to sign a safeguards agreement. This is a clear manifestation of our antinuclear, peace- loving position.

It is the United States that is making nuclear threats on the Korean peninsula. The United States deployed more than 1,000 nuclear weapons and their carrying devices in South Korea, mapped out a nuclear war plan, and endlessly conducted the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise and other nuclear war exercises in an effort to implement this plan, thus posing grave nuclear threats against us. In resolving the issue of signing a safeguards agreement under these circumstances, the issue of removing U.S. nuclear threats against our Republic is raised as an essential and prerequisite demand. If only the United States removes its nuclear threats against us, the issue of signing a safeguards agreement can be resolved immediately. We have already made this position clear.

The fact that, even while not trying to remove nuclear threats against us, the United States unilaterally demanded that we sign an safeguards agreement is shameless. The fact that Gregg made this unreasonable request as a precondition for improving relations between the DPRK and the United States is nothing but an episode that discloses his brigandish nature as an aggressor. Frankly speaking, this is tantamount to the declaration that the United States does not want the improvement of relations between the DPRK and the United States and that it would further strengthen its nuclear war strategy against the Korean people.

Whether progress can be made in improving relations between the DPRK and the United States, in essence, depends upon the United States, which has based numerous U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea. If the danger of nuclear war is to be removed and if peace is to be maintained on the Korean peninsula, first of all, U.S. troops and nuclear weapons must be withdrawn from South Korea. This will pave the road toward improving relations between the DPRK and the United States and solving the Korean problem. The United States must make clear its position on the issue of ensuring security for our Republic.

If it genuinely hopes for peace and the alleviation of tension on the Korean peninsula, it must produce a timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, must stop conducting the "Team Spirit" nuclear war exercise, and must abandon its divisionist and war policies against the Korean people. The United States must clearly know that it will gain nothing from its nuclear blackmail against our people.

Kim Reiterates Desire To Open Ties With Japan

OW0910072690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Oct. 9 KYODO—North Korea's President Kim Il-song on Tuesday reiterated his strong desire to normalize diplomatic ties with Japan while indicating that two Japanese seamen detained in North Korea since 1983 are likely to be released on Thursday.

In an hourlong meeting in Pyongyang with Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairwoman Takako Doi, Kim highly praised the joint declaration signed by his Korean Workers' Party and delegations from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the JSP late last month.

The declaration called for intergovernmental negotiations to normalize diplomatic relations between Japan and North Korea and included a promise of Japanese compensation for North Korea for its "losses" in the postwar period following Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean peninsula.

The pledge drew harsh criticism from South Korea, which established diplomatic ties with Japan in 1965 with a promise from Tokyo of 500 million dollars in economic assistance as compensation.

The six-member delegation from the JSP, Japan's largest opposition party, arrived in Pyongyang on a chartered flight from Tokyo for a two-day visit to attend ceremonies commemorating the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the North Korean party. LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa will fly to the North Korean capital on Wednesday also to attend the ceremonies and meet with Kim on Wednesday morning, LDP sources in Tokyo said.

Citing international support as a reason for his high evaluation of the declaration, Kim told Doi that he had exchanged views over the matter with Song Ping, a member of China's Politburo who is also in Pyongyang for Wednesday's ceremonies. Kim quoted Song as saying that the declaration was meaningful and especially positive that the LDP was among the signatories. Doi in return raised the issue of the release of Beniko Isamu and Yoshio Kuriura, skipper and first mate of the Japanese freighter No. 18 Fujisan Maru.

Kim indicated that prospects for their release are bright, citing persistent efforts by the JSP, indicating that the two men could return to Japan with the JSP and the LDP delegations when they leave Pyongyang after the ceremonies.

PRC Delegation Arrives for Party Anniversary

SK0610105190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—Song Ping, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee [CC] of the Communist Party of China, and his entourage arrived here today by train to participate in the celebrations of the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] on the invitation of the Central Committee of the WPK.

A large crowd of people warmly welcomed the goodwill envoys of the Chinese people, a close revolutionary comrade-in-arms and a class brother, at Pyongyang railway station, waving flowers.

The guests were also welcomed by Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary, Kim Yong-sun, secretary, of the C.C. The WPK, and other cadres.

WPK Fetes Song Ping

SK0710083090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 7 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] gave a reception Saturday evening for Song Ping, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

Song Ping and his entourage and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi were invited there.

Present at the reception were member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the WPK Central Committee Kye Ung-tae, Secretary of the WPK Central Committee Kim Yong-sun, Chief Secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK Choe Mun-son, Vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee Kwon Min-chun and Korean Ambassador to China Chu Chang-chun.

Kim Receives Song Ping

SK0710091490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0911 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 7 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song today received Song Ping, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee [CC] of the Communist Party of China, and his entourage staying here to participate in the celebrations of the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

Present on the occasion were member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Kye Ung-tae, member and Secretary of the C.C., the WPK Kim Yong-sun, member of the C.C., the WPK and Korean Ambassador E.P. [extraordinary and plenipotentiary] to China Chu Chang-chun and Vice-director of a department of the C.C., the WPK Kwon Min-chun.

Chinese Ambassador E.P. to Korea Zheng Yi was also on hand.

Song Ping conveyed greetings of the Chinese party and state leaders to Comrade Kim Il-song on the occasion of the 45th founding anniversary of the WPK and wished him good health and long life.

Comrade Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Song Ping presented him with a gift.

Comrade Kim Il-song entertained the guests to a luncheon.

Kim Receives Chinese Youth

SK0710094090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0917 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 7 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the delegation of the Communist Youth League of China [CYLC] led by Liu Yandong, permanent secretary of the Central Committee of the CYLC, on a visit to Korea to participate in the celebrations of the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

Present on the occasion were Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea and Chinese Ambassador E.P. To Korea Zheng Yi.

The head of the delegation offered congratulations to President Kim Il-song on the occasion of the 45th founding anniversary of the WPK and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and had a conversation with the guests in a warm and cordial atmosphere.

President Kim Il-song was presented with a gift by the guests.

The delegation, together with Song Ping, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, attended the luncheon arranged by President Kim Il-song.

Cuban Party Delegation Arrives for Anniversary

SK0810051090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 8 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Communist Party of Cuba led by Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPC, arrived in Pyongyang Sunday by air to attend the celebrations of the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

The delegation was met at the airport by Han Song-yong, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega.

Madagascar's President Arrives in Pyongyang

SK0810051490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0502 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 8 (KCNA)—Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar and general secretary of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution, arrived here today on a visit to Korea to participate in the celebrations of the 45th anniversary of the WPK [Workers Party of Korea] founding upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The guests were met at the airport by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and vice-president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice- premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister; and officials concerned.

O Chin-u Sends Message to Egyptian Army

SK0610100790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 6 (KCNA)—Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Colonel General Yusuf Sabri ASu-Talib, minister of defence and military production and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the 17th anniversary of the day of the Egyptian Army.

The message says the victory of the October war demonstrated the heroic mettle of the resourceful and courageous Egyptian people and inspired peoples in their struggle to restore national sovereignty.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations forged between the two armies will grow stronger and develop in the future, it wishes him success in his work for increasing the defence capabilities of the country.

South Korea

Reportage on Defense Security Command Scandal

No Appoints New Defense Minister

SK0810010990 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0100 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Excerpt] In connection with political surveillance by the Defense Security Command [DSC], President No Tae-u this morning replaced Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun with former Army Chief of Staff Yi Chong-ku. President No Tae-u also replaced DSC Commander Cho Nam-pung with Ku Chang-hoe, commander of the Capital Garrison Command. [passage omitted]

Further on Defense Dismissals

SK0810031190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0051 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u fired Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun and Defense Security Command (DSC) Commander Gen. Cho Nam-pung in a scandal over the surveillance of civilians by military intelligence Monday.

No named a close associate and retired general, former Army Chief of Staff Yi Chong-ku, to replace Yi as defense minister and Lt. Gen. Ku Chang-hoe, commander of the Capital Garrison Command, to take over from Cho as DSC chief, Presidential Spokesman Yi Su-chung announced.

There is growing criticism of military intelligence for its surveillance of civilians, including ruling party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, opposition leader Kim Tae-chung and Roman Catholic Primate Stephen Cardinal Kim Su-hwan.

The presidential spokesman said the dismissals resulted from No's belief that "anyone who has some responsibility for carrying out state affairs should be held responsible." He said the president would "take further actions to reform the operation of the DSC if there has been something wrong."

Yi, 55, the new defense minister, was born in Taegu, No's hometown, and graduated from the Korea Military Academy in 1958. He was chief of an Army infantry division, commander of the Capital Garrison Command, DSC commander and commander of the 1st

Army before he was made Army Chief of Staff in 1988. In his two years in the post, he was said to have helped democratize the Army and ensure its political neutrality by reforms in management and regulations.

The claim by a deserter from the DSC that he had hard evidence the military was engaged in undercover intelligence activities directed against civilians infuriated the public at the weekend and sparked a new round of recent confrontation between the ruling and opposition parties. The dismissals were apparently aimed at quieting the public and denying the opposition ammunition to attack the government as fast as possible. Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) and the Democratic Party (DP), accusing the military of engaging in politics and sharpening their attack on the government and ruling party, urged No to apologize to the people and punish the defense minister and the DSC chief in connection with allegations of undercover operations.

The deserter, Pvt. Yun Sok-yang, who said he had been a DSC agent, produced as evidence of clandestine surveillance some 1,300 profile cards he said contained the names of all the people under surveillance, 30 computer discs that he alleged contained their dossiers and reports on their activities.

The charges are a severe attack on the government's morality. They raised serious doubts about the government's commitment to ensuring the military is politically neutral and reawakened bad memories of the atrocious wrongs committed by the DSC before and during the rule of former President Chon Tu-hwan.

The government will take actions against other DSC officers involved in the illegal undercover operation, a Defense Ministry source said.

The Defense Ministry admitted the DSC made the profile cards but said they were to shield civilians from the enemy or impure elements in war or when martial law is in force, an explanation lacking persuasive power and fueling public criticism instead of appeasing it. The Defense Security Command was the power base for Gen. Chon to grab power in 1980 and one of the main pillars of support for his government.

No, a former DSC commander, faced with criticism of the DSC for intervention in politics, repeatedly promised to take take steps to prevent military intervention after his inauguration in 1988. The government is reportedly shocked by the disclosure and considering reforms so the DSC cannot intervene in civilian affairs to ensure the military remains neutral. Despite the government's quick move to appease the public, the opposition parties and dissident groups vow to hold rallies to protest DSC surveillance, bringing an acrimonious confrontation with the government over the sensitive issue.

New Defense Minister Speaks

SK0810085690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0832 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku, commenting on a scandal over spying on civilians that cost his predecessor his job, said after his appointment by the president Monday that the duty and function of the Defense Security Command should not be weakened.

Meeting with reporters in the Ministry, Yi said the military intelligence organization was the victim of much misunderstanding. The former Army chief of staff, hinting that the command might be trimmed down, said, "reduction of the Defense Security Command is possible if necessary, but in that case it should keep a level necessary to perform its minimum functions."

He said he would try his best to build strong armed forces and protect the state and the people with the help of military officers and servicemen. "I have the feeling of being heavily burdened as I was named minister responsible for national security at a time when both the international and domestic situations are rapidly changing." "National security is impossible to achieve without the support of the people, and so I will try to make the military loved and trusted by the people," the new defense minister said.

Ousted Defense Minister Speaks

SK0810092090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0900 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Yi Sang-hun, canned as defense minister in a scandal over the surveillance of 1,300 civilians by the Defense Security Command (DSC), said Monday he hoped the DSC would be under the control of the defense minister in the future.

Yi told reporters shortly after seeing his replacement sworn in that the DSC should be entirely controlled by the minister and relevant DSC officers should be court martialed.

No Promises 'Neutral' Military

SK0810091490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0850 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u, in response to public criticism of the Defense Security Command for its surveillance of civilians, has promised to ensure the military is politically neutral and stops spying on civilians, a top ruling party official said Monday.

Ruling party executive chairman Kim Yong-sam, after meeting with No, said the two had agreed that the command should stay out of politics and stop its surveillance of civilians, including Kim.

No said the government will soon issue a report to the National Assembly to resolve problems arising from the scandal, Kim said. He declined to elaborate. South Korea and the Soviet Union will exchange ambassadors this month, he said. They established diplomatic ties on Sept. 30. The two countries will begin working-level discussions or exchange visits by No and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev once the ambassadors take up their posts, Kim said.

No expressed his regret at a hunger strike by opposition leader Kim Tae-chung and called on the opposition to return to the national assembly for a negotiated settlement of pending national issues, citing difficulties facing the nation inside and outside, a presidential aide said. Kim began fasting earlier in the day in an attempt to force the government and ruling party to accept four demands.

DLP Reactions Differ on Report

SK0610003990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] yesterday showed mixed reactions to the disclosure by an AWOL private assigned to the Defense Security Command of the army intelligence agency's alleged surveillance of political leaders and leading society figures.

Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the party, who was among the list of those under the alleged surveillance, and his followers are ready to launch an attack on high-ranking administration officials involved, sources close to them said. They were careful when commenting about the scandal, but did not hide their disgust. DLP floor leader Kim Tong-yong, a protege of Kim Yong-sam, and a handful of other followers were allegedly among the 1,300 persons listed for round-the-clock surveillance.

Aides to Kim claimed that Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun and the commander of the Defense Security Command [DSC] resign immediately, taking responsibility for the affair, if the allegation turns out to be true.

Old followers of President No Tae-u making up the mainstream faction in the government party appeared to be bewildered by the disclosure of the alleged behavior by the top military intelligence agency. Four key officers of the DLP huddled yesterday to discuss how to minimize the impact from the scandal. Kim Yong-sam, and two co-chairmen Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun, were visiting steel mills of the Pohang Iron and Steel Company yesterday. The key DLP officers decided to hear the explanation of Defense Minister Yi about the affair, in a meeting of key officers today which Kim will chair.

Party spokesman Pak Hui-tae said, "Our party's official line is against any political surveillance of civilians by military intelligence agencies." "However, it will be determined soon, whether or not the alleged surveillance had political purposes."

Secretary general Pak Chun-pyong, who served as defense security commander about a decade ago, described the alleged computerized blacklist as a result of "routine" DSC staff activities. "It may be nothing but scraps from bygone news stories concerning politicians of the ruling and opposition parties," he said.

DLP Chief Surveilled by DSC

SK0710035790 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] The Defense Security Command kept Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] under surveillance even after his turnabout from opposition leader to government party chairman through the political merger in January, according to the DSC files produced by Pvt. Yun Sok-yang, an Army deserter.

Computer discs Yun had stolen from the DSC office on Sept. 23 revealed that military investigators kept watch on Kim's activities till April 9, when he was elected DLP chairman in the inaugural party convention. Kim's record was computerized on June 29.

Eleven DLP lawmakers who are close aides of Kim, were also subject to the military intelligence's surveillance. Their records were also computerized between April and June by the DSC. On the DSC surveillance list were 69 lawmakers of the opposition party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] including Party president Kim Tae-chung, and 12 of his aides. Rep. Choe Hun was the only PPD lawmaker who was not included in the DSC files.

All but two lawmakers of the splinter Democratic Party were on the DSC list. Those spared from the DSC watch are Reps. Ho Tak and Kim Chong-kil.

The DSC dossiers include nobody who belonged to the Democratic Justice Party, the ruling party until the merger, and just one from the defunct Democratic Republican Party, also a partner in the merger.

In addition to the 140 politicians, 550 dissidents, 160 student activists, 120 religious leaders, 60 professors and 10 journalists are on the DSC list. The computerized DSC dossier on opposition leader Kim Tae-chung records his career from 1947 to 1988 and defines him in a personality profile as "a dangerous figure who has been inconsistent in his words and deeds throughout his 30-year political career." The military intelligence files showed that the DSC is clearly prejudiced against some opposition politicians, branding them as "leftists" or "opportunists." Rep. Yi Hae-chan of PPD was branded in the DSC dossier as "an ingrained leftist, student activist in the 1970s and the man of Kim Tae-chung." The DSC file on Rep. Kang Kum-sik even includes the fact that his uncle had collaborated with the North Korean communists and one of his relatives defected to the North during the Korean War. The dossier on Rep. Pak Yong-suk reads, "her husband An Pyong-mu is a leftist and 'minjung' theologian, a close confidant of Kim Tae-chung."

The computer discs and files produced by the army deserter revealed that DSC has spied on the private lives and financial deals of politicians. For instance, Rep. So Chong-won of DLP, a close aide of Kim Yong-sam, was recorded in the DSC files as having exercised influence in bidding for a construction project in his constituency. The files on Rep. Cho Hong-kyu of PPD said that a businessman filed a petition with prosecutors against him in connection with a financial deal.

The Human Rights Committee of National Council of Churches of Korea complained that the DSC complied the data on civilians illegally for use in blackmailing them or having them toe the line in case of need. The committee, which arranged Yun's news conference Thursday, said the files contain quotations of remarks and newspaper and magazine articles written by those under surveillance as well as their political activities.

More Details on DSC Activities

SK0710014790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Conspicuously absent from a list of civilians that military intelligence keeps files on are politicians loyal to President No Tae-u, while followers of Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam figure prominently.

Computer disks and dossiers from the Defense Security Command (DSC) shown to reporters Thursday by Pvt. Yun Sok-yang, who claims he stole them when he deserted, list 91 lawmakers. They include 70 of the 71 lawmakers in Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) and 13 ruling party lawmakers who belonged to Kim Yong-sam's opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), which switched sides in a political merger in January. They include nobody who belonged to the Democratic Justice Party (DJP), the ruling party until the merger, and just one from the New Democratic Republican Party, also a partner in the merger.

Dissidents account for 550 of the 1,302 civilians being kept under surveillance by the Defense Security Command. There are 196 activist students, 140 people from the political circle, 120 religious leaders, 60 professors and scores of journalists. The Human Rights Committee of the National Council of Churches of Korea, which arranged the news conference, said it planned to publish all the information presented by Yun.

Yun, 24, was a DSC undercover agent until he deserted late last month for "reasons of conscience." He took with him files on more than 1,300 civilians under surveillance and 30 computer disks. There are approximately 60 more disks, Yun said.

Computer imputs were made between April and June this year, and the dossier on Kim Yong-sam details his activities up to April 9, when he was elected executive chairman of the ruling party. No records on Kim Yong-sam were made after last April 9. It is uncertain whether the DSC discontinued its surveillance on Kim on its own or it keeps another file on him, observers said.

Kim last April 11 warned against a "lack of discipline" and "political manuverings," apparently aimed at Pak Chol-on, President No's nephew-in-law, who was feuding with Kim for political hegemony. At that time, rumors had circulated that intelligence agents traced Kim's movements and political fund sources as well.

Files contain quotations of remarks pertaining to the military, clippings of newspaper and magazine articles written by persons under surveillance and a description of political activities. The file on ruling party Rep. So Chong-won, for example, includes information that on March 15 he invited various neighborhood groups to a meal as "part of the management strategy of his constituency." Also listed were lawmakers suspected in influence-peddling cases. There is plenty of room for using the data as a means of blackmailing or coercing them, observers said.

A lawmaker of the opposition PPD was described as a "left-leaning, faithful follower of Kim Tae-chung" in his dossier. Files on another PPD lawmaker showed that he held suspicious political beliefs, and made remarks undermining the military and national security during his parliamentary activities. Computer imputs on some PPD lawmakers whose close kin and distant relatives defected to Communist North Korea and conducted pro-Pyongyang activities were also made.

Kim Tok-yong, close to Kim Yong-sam, was identified as a DLP lawmaker in his dossier, but there was no records of his previous antigovernment activities.

In a related development, a Seoul university student claimed that two DSC agents with whom Pvt. Yun worked were identical to two members of a six-member military investigation team, who abducted and tortured him in August last year.

Kim Chong-wan, a senior majoring in Korean literature at Kukmin University, now absent from school, asserted that Yi Sung-sop, a section chief of the DSC's Sobinggo branch, and Kim Hyo-su, also assigned to the branch, took him to a hilly area and threatened to bury him in an effort to discover the whereabouts of his friend, Kim Chong-tok, editor of the Kukmin school magazine, in connection with Yim Su-kyong's clandestine visit to North Korea. The student said, "It is nonsense to continue the military intelligence agency's surveillance on civilians despite of the government's repeated pledge to discontinue such a watch." The story about Kim Chong-hwan has become a subject of major concern among college students and a play dealing with the story was performed during an anti-government student rally last Sept. 22.

PPD Chief Begins Hunger Strike

SK0810015890 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0100 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] President Kim Tae-chung today declared a hunger strike until the Democratic Liberal Party's attempt for long-term power is thwarted and until his goal of achieving democracy is fulfilled.

Kim Tae-chung held a news conference this morning at party headquarters to declare the hunger strike. He urged President No Tae-u to abandon his plan to revise the Constitution to allow a cabinet system; to fulfill his promise for local autonomy; to ensure security for people's livelihood; and to bring an end to political activities through schemes.

PPD President Kim Tae-chung also said that if the No regime revises the Constitution to allow a cabinet system, he will wage a struggle to bring an end to the No regime, terming such constitutional revision an anti-democratic act of betraying the people. Kim Tae-chung also said that he will make utmost effort to implement local autonomy and that, unless the promise for local autonomy is fulfilled, his party will not cooperate with the ruling parties in running state affairs.

Kim Tae-chung continued that if complete measures against rising prices, the Uruguay Round, and security for the people's livelihood are not taken before the end of this year, he will conduct a popular movement to refer the No regime to a vote of confidence.

Kim Tae-chung said that the Defense Security Command must be disbanded to prevent the military from getting involved in politics, that the Agency for National Security Planning law must be revised to bring an end to political activities by way of schemes, and that, toward this end, he will hold indoor and outdoor rallies and conduct signature campaigns.

Some Civilians on List Protest

SK0810081290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0711 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—About 100 people whose daily activities are monitored by the Defense Security Command (DSC) held a protest rally in a church Monday, charging that military surveillance of civilians was clear evidence the government was immoral and anti-democratic.

President No Tae-u fired the defense minister and DSC commander earlier in the day, saying they were responsible for "political surveillance directed against some 1,300 civilians, including ruling party executive chairman Kim Yong-sam, opposition leader Kim Tae-chung and Roman Catholic Primate Stephen Cardinal Kim Su-hwan."

The ralliers called on No to punish the defense minister, DSC commander and others, saying he should not drop the matter with the dismissals.

They proposed that a joint committee be formed to investigate military surveillance of civilians and said they would organize a massive rally to protest the DSC's undercover operations.

Liaison Officer Accepts 9 Oct Meeting Day

SK0810070290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0604 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Kim Yong-hwan, senior South Korean liaison officer to the inter-Korean prime ministers talks, on Monday accepted a North Korean counter-proposal to have a meeting of senior liaison officers on Tuesday at the truce village of Panmunjom.

On Friday, he asked North Korean liaison officer Choe Pong-chun to meet him on Monday to discuss arrangements for the high-level inter-Korean talks scheduled for Oct. 16-19 in Pyongyang. Choe responded the next day by asking that they meet Tuesday, and Kim accepted.

Report on 9 Oct Contact

SK0910134390 Seoul Television Service in Korean 1200 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] In a contact held this morning at Panmunjom between the responsible liaison officials of the South and North, the two sides exchanged a name list of personnel participating in the second round of the South-North High-Level Talks and the North side's memorandum guaranteeing their personal safety.

The two sides agreed to finalize the intinerary's details during another contact between the responsible liaison officials on 12 October.

Reporter Yi Son-chae reports from Panmunjom:

[Begin Yi recording] At today's contact between the responsible liaison officials, the North side handed over a memorandum on guaranteeing personnel safety signed by Premier Yon Hyong-muk, and our side delivered a list naming 90 people scheduled to visit the North, including seven delegates.

Although the two sides' responsible liaison officials also discussed the itinerary for the three-day meeting, including procedures for talks, accommodations, meeting places, transportation, banquets, and sightseeing, they failed to reach a full agreement on such issues, thereby agreeing to finalize them during another contact at 1500 on 12 October at the House of Peace in our side's area of Panmunjom.

According to the North Korean side's proposal put forward at today's contact, the delegates will be transported by train from Kaesong to Pyongyang, and the People's Palace of Culture will be used as a site for talks.

For the second round of South-North High-Level Talks scheduled for 16-19 October in Pyongyang, a total of 90 people—seven of our side's delegates including Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun; 33 suite members, including the responsible liaison officials; and 50 reporters—are expected to visit Pyongyang.

Our delegation is expected to stake out our side's basic position on improving South-North relations and the measures to be implemented through four statements, including ones upon arrival and departure, and three banquet speeches. The seven delegates, including Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, are expected to have an official interview with President Kim Il-song.

Meanwhile, the government today named Yim Tong-won, director of the Foreign Ministry's Institute for Diplomatic and Security Affairs, as our delegation's spokesman to the South-North High-Level Talks, replacing National Unification Board Minister Hong Song-chol. [end recording]

Application for Unilateral UN Entry Considered

SK0610014390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0132 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea is giving careful consideration to applying alone for U.N. membership this year if North Korea continues its refusal to apply together for separate membership, a senior government official said Saturday.

He said the South notified the North of its position in the second round of working-level talks on U.N. membership at the truce village of Panmunjom Friday. Pyongyang failed to take a new position in Friday's talks, repeating its call for the two Koreas to share a single seat in the United Nations. The South wants separate membership.

Seoul believes support for South Korea's admission to the world body is maturing and that the Soviet Union and China, permanent members of the Security Council, would not veto an application as Seoul has established diplomatic ties with Moscow and is rapidly moving toward improved relations with Beijing, the official said. Applying for U.N. membership may prompt North Korea to follow suit, he said. "There is a possibility that the North will also apply for separate membership in the United Nations if the South submits an application for a unilateral seat," the official said.

An application may be presented if the two sides are unable to reach agreement on the membership issue in the second round of inter-Korean prime ministers' talks in Pyongyang on Oct. 16-19, the official said.

Liaison Contact Proposed for N-S Soccer Game

SK0510131490 Seoul YONHAP in English 1257 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korean Sports Minister Chong Tong-song on Friday proposed Seoul and Pyongyang have preliminary contacts at the truce village of Panmunjom on Monday to discuss arrangements for inter-Korean soccer games slated for Thursday in Pyongyang and for Oct. 23 in Seoul.

In a telephone message to his North Korean counterpart Kim Yu-sun, Chong said that liaison officers from both sides should meet to arrange details of the goodwill soccer games, including the itinerary and safety of players and accompanying officials.

Chong informed that he wished North Korean liaison officers to appear at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in the truce village on the demilitarized zone dividing South and North Korea.

President No Meets Kanemaru, Discusses North

SK0810123890 Seoul YONHAP in English 1220 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (OANA-YONHAP)—President No Tae-u on Monday emphasized that Japan should seek improvement of relations with North Korea in extensive consultations with South Korea and that such improvement be pursued as to bring positive changes in the Korean peninsula.

Meeting with former Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru at the Presidential Mansion, No stressed that it is not appropriate for Japan to give compensation or other financial cooperation to Pyongyang before they normalize ties with the communist country, Presidential Spokesman Yi Su-chung said. Kanemaru, who led a delegation of officials from Liberal Democratic Party and Japan Socialist Party to North Korea late September, had come hastily to Seoul Monday to brief president No on the current developments between Pyongyang and Tokyo that are moving toward speedy improvement. The Japanese official apologized to the South Korean people and the Government for causing misunderstanding and controversy ensuing his visit to Pyongyang but explained that his trip to North Korea was not arranged by the government but by the parties, Yi said.

No said he does not oppose warming of relations between North Korea and Japan, but it should be sought in full negotiations with the Seoul government. One of the conditions to normalizing ties should include North Korea's signing of the nuclear safeguard accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the president said. Compensation, to be paid to North Korea for inflictions during Japanese colonial rule, and other economic cooperation should not be settled before diplomatic links are established, No told Kanemaru, and the Pyongyang government must guarantee that they will not use the money for military build-up. Pyongyang-Tokyo ties should also be steered to encourage North Korea to open its regime, the president emphasized.

Kanemaru agreed with President No in all these points and pledged again to consult fully with the South Korean

Government in seeking diplomatic improvement with Pyongyang, the presidential spokesman said. He stressed that he only wished to make a headway in ties with North Korea and did not intend to hurt South Korea or any other allies, according to Yi.

An eight-point joint declaration following Kanemaru's visit, announced in Pyongyang and Tokyo, created a furor in South Korea for inclusion of statements such as "Chosun (Korea) is one," and sentences stating compensation for the "losses inflicted upon the Korean people in the ensuing 45 years after World War II." The first statement implies Japan's accommodation of North Korea's unification policy, and losses for 45 years after the war was never mentioned when negotiating compensation with the South, Seoul officials said. Kanemaru explained that the term "45 years" was a "political expression" and that he did not imply compensation for those years. The Japanese official added that he was not yet able to negotiate with his government about the proposed talks in November with Pyongyang on diplomatic normalization.

Foreign Minister Warns Japan on North Ties

SK0910023490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0214 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 9 (YONHAP)—South Korea will counter firmly if Japan takes a "dual attitude" in its bid to normalize relations with North Korea, Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung warned Monday. Choe did not elaborate on what steps he had in mind to counter Japan's dual attitude, by which he appeared to mean Tokyo's approach to Pyongyang in regard to Seoul.

The government will urge Japan to persuade North Korea into reform and openness to advance the establishment of peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula, Choe told the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee. He said the government will seek steps to ensure that compensation given to North Korea by Japan will not be used for military purposes or to threaten the peace of the Korean peninsula.

On joining the United Nations, he said that if Pyongyang shows no sign of changing its long-held proposal for sharing a single seat the government will seek separate U.N. entry after urging the North to accept simultaneous admission, which Pyongyang argues would perpetuate and legalize the division of Korea.

Choe denied that 23 billion dollars from the economic cooperation fund will be extended to the Soviet Union, and said he and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnaze did not discuss it. Choe said the two nations will sign an investment guarantee and double taxation avoidance pacts when a Soviet delegation visits Seoul this or next month.

Committee members from the opposition parties were absent as they have resigned from the Assembly.

Beijing Vice Mayor Predicts Improved ROK Ties

SK0610111690 Seoul YONHAP in English 1047 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Beijing, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—Zhang Baifa, vice mayor of Beijing, the successful venue of the 1990 Asian sports festival, has predicted a rapid improvement of relations between South Korea and China. At a news conference on Saturday with only one day left before the Beijing Asian Games closes, Zhang said that he believes South Korean-Chinese relations will advance in accordance with the development of inter-Korean relations.

Zhang, who is concurrently vice chairman of the Beijing Asian Games Organizing Committee (BAGOC), also stressed the more open and liberal policy, which China is to take after the 11th Asiad, will influence inter-Korean relations, which is about to thaw. "China will take more liberal and open policy toward the outside world, and I think it will surely affect inter-Korean relations," the vice mayor said. "China-South Korea realtions will develop further in the future as it has in recent years, considering an yearly trade volume between the two nations has reached 3.3 billion U.S. dollars with Korean commercial signboards hanging high on major streets in Beijing." "The latest developments in connection with Sino-South Korean relations were quite unthinkable just a few years ago."

Zhang has stayed nearly vigilant during the sports festival, controlling and overseeing normal operation of sports facilities and manpower service. He expressed thanks to South Korea for extending materialistic help for the Beijing event—the largest international meet for China to host. "I appreciate South Korean businesses extending materialistic help and also would like to express my thanks to the entire South Korean people," Zhang said.

He said he and other Chinese leaders with whom he met were really happy to see South and North Korea jointly form a single cheer team in some of the sports venues.

As for the Chinese actual leader Deng Xiaoping, who didn't show up in the opening ceremony on Sept. 22, producing numerous rumors about him, the vice mayor explained Deng himself had refused to attend the ceremony. "BAGOC invited him to the historic opening ceremony. However, Deng refused the invitation saying he wanted to avoid excessive care Chinese leaders would give him and concentration of viewers' interest on himself," Zhang said. "Deng is viewing the Asiad every day at home on T.V."

He hinted that China is studying the successful staging of the 1988 Seoul Olympics in a bid to hold the 2000 Olympic Games in Beijing. "The Asian Games has been so far successfully nearing the closure, and we are attempting to host the 2000 Olympiad here by making an overall evaluation of the Asiad," the No. 2 man for the Beijing games said.

"The Beijing citizens have experienced great development in mind and way of thinking through the ongoing Asiad. But such problems as inability to speak English well in cases of most Beijing citizens and resulting somewhat poor service for foreigners have emerged as things to cope with."

Zhang missed the Iraqi team much, saying, "We followed the decision of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). If Iraq attended, the games would be absolutely perfect and competitions would be more interesting."

PRC's Qian Hints at Relations With Seoul

SK0910081590 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 8 Oct 90 p 2

[Report by correspondent Yi Nak-yon from Tokyo]

[Text] On 8 October, Japanese papers revealed that Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, in a 4 October interview with KYODO, a Chinese paper published in New York, stated that China does not oppose cross recognition of North and South Korea and hinted China will establish diplomatic relations with the ROK in the future.

In the interview Qian said, "China currently is not hastening to establish diplomatic relations with the ROK and will not do so for the time being." He added, "China, however, has no objection to North Korea improving relations with the United States and Japan or to the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the ROK."

Pak Denies Serious Talks With Yi Chong-ok

SK0510024190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] Pak Chol-on, former state minister for political affairs, tried yesterday to keep a low profile on what he has done in Beijing these past weeks. "It is quite untrue that I had a serious political discussion with North Korean Vice President Yi Chong-ok on inter-Korean issues while I was in Beijing last month for the Asian Games," said Pak expressing displeasure with what he described as exaggerated news reports on his activities in China.

He also denied earlier reports that he was instrumental in materializing the good-will soccer games between Seoul and Pyongyang which are to resume this month in Pyongyang after more than 40 years of suspension in the wake of the division of the Korean peninsula shortly after World War II.

When pressed by reporters to explain why he was in Beijing for a couple of weeks, Pak admitted that he met with a number of high-ranking Chinese government officials in private but stressed the meetings were purely "private" aimed at promoting friendship. "Let me point out once again that my trip to China has nothing to do with any diplomatic mission aimed at improving bilateral ties with China," said Pak who returned home Oct. 1 after an 11-day visit to Beijing on the occasion of the Asiad.

While refusing to go into detail about his activities in China, Pak observed that Seoul-Beijing relations as well as Seoul-Pyongyang ties would enter a new dimension against the backdrop of the new developments on the Korean peninsula, notably the normalization of ties between Seoul and Moscow.

"I'm quite optimistic on relations involving Seoul, Pyongyang and Beijing," Pak added.

Choe Ho-chung Discusses PRC Ties, Middle East

SK0810072090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—China will improve relations with South Korea gradually, so as not to disturb North Korea, and has notified Seoul of this through various channels, Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung said Monday. Reporting on the political situation on the Korean peninsula to the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee, Choe said, "China, mindful of its ties with North Korea, has conveyed through various channels its intention to gradually improve relations with us, taking time."

He said governmental negotiations on private trade offices would resume now that the Asian Games had closed. "The government will use the trade offices as official channels for consultation and will seek to normalize bilateral relations soon," he said.

On the 220 million U.S. dollars in cash and materials for the multinational peace-keeping effort in the Persian Gulf, Choe said 40 million dollars would come from the Economic Development Cooperation fund. In addition to the 220 million dollar pledge, the government is also considering dispatching a medical team to the Middle East, the foreign minister said. The government will send 30,000 tons of rice (valued at 10 million dollars) and other materials to the peace-keeping effort to reduce the direct financial burden on the domestic economy, he said.

Choe said 1,160 Koreans have been evacuated from Kuwait and Iraq since the invasion on Aug. 2 and there are nine left in Kuwait and 160 in Iraq. "The government has kept the embassy in Kuwait open in respect of a U.N. Security Council resolution to do so, but has withdrawn all Korean officials as normal operation became impossible. At present the embassy is managed by three local employees. We will take joint steps along with other countries as to whether to return the officials to the embassy or not," he said.

Gorbachev Visit to Seoul Will Be Difficult

SK0610101690 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 5 Oct 90 p 2

[Report by Correspondent Choe Maeng-ho from Moscow]

[Text] In regard to the exchange of visits between the top leaders of the ROK and the Soviet Union, some people note that it will be difficult for Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to visit the ROK in the first half of next year.

A source in the Soviet Government recently said that "President Gorbachev's visit to the ROK will not be easy at all because the Soviet Union has to maintain good-neighborly relations and friendship with both North and South Korea after it establishes diplomatic relations with the ROK."

The source stated that "the Soviet policy on the Korean peninsula is based on the consolidation of peace between North and South Korea, the building of trust, an arms reduction, and the achievement of peaceful reunification, and the Soviet Union has urged this course to both sides. Therefore, the significance of the ROK's establishment of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and the significance of the Soviet Union's establishment of diplomatic relations with the ROK is perhaps different." The source said: If President Gorbachev visits only Seoul, after having accepted North Korea's invitation to visit Pyongyang, which has been extended to him many times since 1986, there is the great possibility that he may place North Korea in a more difficult situation. One should realize that the Soviet Union has maintained special relations with North Korea for a long time.

The source added that, however, President No Tae-u's visit to the Soviet Union will not pose any problems.

In the meantime, in a 2100 news program on 1 October that commented on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the ROK, the state-run Soviet television said that "there is the possibility that President No Tae-u will visit the Soviet Union this year and that President Gorbachev will visit the ROK during the first half of next year." Thus, it openly reported for the first time on the possibility of their visits. Another source noted that it seems that the Soviet Union will upgrade its consular office in Seoul to Embassy as of 1 January next year.

Soviet Proposal for Gorbachev Visit Aired

SK0910020190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0108 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 9 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev may visit both South and North Korea following his visit to Japan next spring, perhaps setting the stage for a Seoul-Pyongyang summit soon after, a South Korean official said Monday. "Negotiations between Seoul and Moscow over the exchange of summit-level visits have been under way since the foreign ministers meeting in New York on Sept. 30. The Soviets raised the issue of visits by President Gorbachev to both South and North Korea," said the official, who asked not to be named. South Korea and the Soviet Union, a strong ally of North Korea, established diplomatic relations on Sept. 30.

If the Soviet idea were materialized, it would serve as another turning point in the improvement of inter-Korean relations as well as in easing tensions on the Korean peninsula, according to analysts here. He said the Soviets seemed to want Gorbachev to visit both Koreas following his visit to Tokyo, slated for March or April, to balance its approach toward them. Gorbachev has never been to either Korea. "We don't oppose the Soviet idea and the Soviets are expected to convey it to North Korea soon. If President Gorbachev visits South and North Korea, an inter-Korean summit is likely to follow before long," he said. He said North Korea, with its moves to improve relations with Japan, might accept the Soviet plan.

On President No Tae-u going to the Soviet Union this year, he said, "in principle, the two countries have no difference in opinion concerning President No's visit. However, it is highly likely that President No's visit will be promoted in line with President Gorbachev's visit to South and North Korea. In this context, we have to see how the on-going negotiations develop."

No and Gorbachev held the first ever Seoul-Moscow summit in San Francisco on June 4, paving the way for early normalization of ties. Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung may visit Moscow next month to discuss preparations for No's visit, the official said. South Korea and the Soviet Union are preparing to open resident embassies in each other's capital this month.

Moscow-Seoul: Sports Ministers Initial Accord

SK0510011390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0047 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korean Sports Minister Chong Tong-song and visiting Soviet Sports Minister Nikolay Rusak initialed an accord Thursday to promote bilateral sports exchanges and cooperation.

Under the pact, athletes, coaches and experts from the two nations will take part in competitions, seminars and conferences in the other country to enhance their performance. They will be encouraged to swap information, particularly through publications, on training or scientific research as well as technical know-how on recreation and sports medicine.

It is the first agreement between the governments since they normalized diplomatic relations on Sept. 30. Sports officials expect about 10 sports exchanges between Seoul and Moscow next year, including an international archery competition slated for August in Moscow.

Foreign Minister Choe Returns From New York

SK0510133390 Seoul YONHAP in English 1324 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung has hinted at Seoul's push for its separate U.N. membership within this year, saying the government can't wait forever if North Korea continues to object to simultaneous admission to the world body. "More than 60 nations have expressed their support for South Korea joining the world body in its General Assembly this year. The international atmosphere is rapidly changing in favor of the republic of Korea's U.N. membership," Choe told reporters on Friday at the Kimpo International Airport upon arrival from his 13-day trip to New York to attend the U.N. general meeting. Seoul has the observer status in the world body.

North Korea is strongly in favor of a single inter-Korean U.N. seat, asserting a unilateral or simultaneous membership for the two parts of Korea perpetuates the division of Korea.

"I clearly conveyed Seoul's position to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during the Sept. 30 Korean-Soviet foreign ministers' talks that it would be just the same as giving Pyongyang a veto right if Seoul doesn't apply for the U.N. membership just because Pyongyang objects to the idea of simultaneous memberships for the South and the North." "Shevardnadze reacted affirmatively to our position, saying Seoul needs to directly explain it to Pyongyang," Choe said. Choe and Shevardnadze agreed to establish diplomatic ties between Seoul and Moscow during their United Nations talks.

"We plan to establish our embassy in Moscow as soon as our internal legal procedures are completed. As for the possibility of exchanging summit visits, concrete consultation between our two governments can begin even before the establishment of embassies as Shevardnadze and I have agreed to push to exchange visits of Presidents No Tae-u and Mikhail Gorbachev at an early and convenient date," Choe said.

Firms Dispute Opening of Sea Routes to USSR

SK0510061790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0554 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—Inauguration of a direct sea line between South Korea and the Soviet Union may be postponed until early November because each side insists it open service first, a Korean shipping source said Friday.

Seoul and Moscow agreed at maritime talks on July 16-18 in Seoul to start a weekly container ship run this month on the 816-kilometer route between Pusan and Vostochny. Under the agreement, Hyundai Merchant Marine Co. and Chunkyung Shipping Co. of Korea are negotiating with the Far East Shipping Co. (FESCO) of the Soviet Union on the date of opening the line.

The Soviet Union informed Korea in late September that it would treat Korean ships using Soviet port facilities the same as Soviet ships from Oct. 1. Previously, the Soviets levied relatively heavy taxes on Korean vessels using Soviet port facilities.

Steps for Education of Koreans in USSR, China

SK0510012990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0111 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korea will send audio-visual educational materials to the Soviet Union and China so that people of Korean ancestry can learn the language, history and culture of their forebears, officials at the Education Ministry said Friday. Subsidies will be given to unofficial Korean-language schools and people will be invited to attend Korean identity courses run by Seoul National University's educational institute for overseas Koreans.

Nearly 2.31 million people in the two communist countries—1.87 million in China and 440,000 in the Soviet Union—identify themselves as ethnic Koreans.

The ministry is working on Korean-Russian texts for language education in the Soviet Union and the first books should be in classrooms by the year's end. The ministry is also considering allowing children from the Soviet Union and China who have Korean ancestry to enroll in high schools, colleges and universities in Korea.

Currently, 742 unofficial language schools teach Korean in 64 countries. They have 5,360 teachers and 50,324 students. And 999 foreign-born children of Korean ancestry attend 29 institutes of higher learning in South Korea.

Electricity Consumption Soars Jan-Aug 1990

SK0510013990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0044 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—Overall electricity consumption soared 15.4 percent to 61.975 billion KWH in the first eight months of the year, an official at the Energy and Resources Ministry said on Friday. The annual growth for the last three years is 13.4 percent.

On Aug. 13, demand for electricity was 14.6 percent above normal and the electricity reserve fell to 8.3 percent, much lower than the usual 15 percent.

Businesses and households registered a 25-percent jump and an 18.3-percent jump in electricity consumption, respectively, for January-August. Agricultural use fell 4 percent and industrial use climbed 13.4 percent.

Electricity consumption is rising largely because of an improvement in living standards in South Korea, but especially because of the widespread use of refrigerators and air conditioners and the continuous lowering of electricity charges since 1986.

To meet the increasing demand for electricity, the government brought three power plants onto line this year and will start up five more next year, the official said.

The ministry will step up a nationwide campaign to conserve electricity and charge different rates for different seasons and times of day, he said.

President No Sends Chusok Gifts to Chon

SK0510091190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0847 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (OANA-YONHAP)—President No Tae-u remembered his predecessor and mentor, exiled former President Chon Tu-hwan, over Chusok.

Chong Ku-yong, the presidential secretary in charge of civil affairs, visited the Chons on Sept. 27 at Paektam Temple, where they have taken refuge from public charges of corruption, and delivered presents from No.

Chon and his wife are in good health and will decide by themselves when to come out of seclusion, according to Chong, who quoted Chon as saying he will not return to his house in Yonhui-tong, western Seoul, after he leaves the temple grounds.

3,763 Security Violation Indictments Reported

SK0710023990 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] The Prosecutor General's Office reported yesterday that 3,763 people, many of them college students, have been indicted on charges of violating laws on national security and assemblies during the past two decades. According to the prosecution's 1990 yearbook, they were among the 4,848 people who underwent interrogation by law enforcement authorities for their suspected national security-related offenses during the 1970-89 period.

Of those questioned, 1,913 were suspected of breaching the tough National Security Law that replaced the Anti-Communist Law in December 1980, passed in time with the birth of the controversial Fifth Republic led by Chon Tu-hwan. In addition, during the past 20 years, 74,258 public officials were questioned by law enforcement authorities on numerous charges, and 25,219 (34 percent) were put to trial, the prosecution said. The offenses charged included negligence of duties (4,336), abuse of power (1,966) and bribery taking (4,404).

The yearbook showed 41,266 foreign residents in Korea were questioned for criminal charges including robberies and assaults. According to the prosecution, 4,731 people were arrested or booked without physical detention on charges stemming from illegal campaigning for parliamentary elections. Of the total, 1,483 (31.4 percent) were indicted. Overall, 14,893,500 people were reported to law enforcement authorities for criminal charges for the past 20 years and 51 percent of them were indicted, the prosecution said.

Burma

Government Rejects Nominee for U.S. Ambassador

BK0510140490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1246 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Rangoon, Oct 5 (AFP)—Burma has withdrawn its agreement to the appointment of Frederick Vreeland as the new U.S. ambassador on grounds that he harbours a negative attitude towards the present military government, a military spokeman said Friday. Burma's agreement to the appointment of Mr. Vreeland had been officially announced in June.

"Between then and now, Mr. Vreeland has not only changed his professed desire to promote friendly relations with Burma but has been advocating an economic blockade of this nation if certain demands were not met," the spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Ye Htut, said at a regular press conference. The spokesman also cited U.S. Senate hearings regarding Mr. Vreeland's reported background as a U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) officer. [passage omitted]

According to a Burmese Foreign Ministry official, this is the first time an ambassador has been rejected after his appointment was officially agreed upon.

The outgoing U.S. ambassador, Burton Levin, left Burma on Monday after a four-year term. He was also regarded as a leading critic of the military government. A book titled "Who's Who in the CIA," with Mr. Levin's name listed, is on display at an official historical exhibition here.

Relations between Burma and the United States have been strained over the last two years as military authorities here deplored blatant interference in Burma's internal affairs not only by resident U.S. diplomats but also by the Voice of America (VOA).

According to the military spokesman, withdrawal of the official agreement to appoint Mr. Vreeland as the new ambassador was conveyed verbally Thursday to the U.S. State Department by Burmese Ambassador Myo Aung. [passage omitted]

Foreign Ministry Warns Against 'Unjust Pressure'

BK0510171990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] today issued a press release in connection with certain matters it wishes to bring to the attention of the diplomatic corps in Yangon [Rangoon].

Colonel Thura Aung Htet, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department; U Win Lwin, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department; U Khin Maung Soe, director of the Foreign Ministry's Europe Division; and U Aye, director of the Foreign Ministry's American Division, met FRG Ambassador Dr. Baron Walter Marschall von Bieberstein, dean of the diplomatic corps, at the Foreign Ministry at 1100 and explained about the press release.

The full text of the press release is as follows:

The Foreign Ministry of the Union of Myanmar would like to bring to the attention of the diplomatic corps in Yangon that although the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], is by its nature not a de jure government because it has not been constituted under an existing constitution, it is a de facto government of the Union of Myanmar since its assumption of responsibilities on 18 September 1988.

At present the SLORC is trying its utmost to create favorable conditions under which democracy can flourish in the Union of Myanmar. This is being done in accordance with Myanmar's outlook and in a Myanmar way to suit the nation's specific conditions and circumstances.

As the diplomats are no doubt aware, the Union of Myanmar has practiced and continues to practice an independent and active foreign policy based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The Union of Myanmar's foreign policy has always been guided by these five principles in its relationships with other countries and has always maintained friendly ties with all the countries in the world, particularly with neighboring countries, a cardinal pillar of its international activity.

Myanmar harbors no antagonism against any country whatsoever. On the other hand, it is unacceptable for foreign countries at this delicate and sensitive stage and time of transition to exert unwarranted and unjust pressure on the nation. The SLORC would like to reiterate that whatever external pressure is exerted, it will continue to shoulder the task that has been set out. Such pressure, exerted by a minority of countries, can only be detrimental to the interests of these countries. Therefore, Myanmar, in keeping with the responsibilities of a member of the United Nations, will always respect and adhere to the basic principles contained in the United Nations Charter.

In accordance with the de facto status of the government, the SLORC has been discharging its responsibilities according to the law. Should it be deemed necessary, the SLORC will continue to exercise martial law until such time that a firm, constitutionally established government is accepted. In the exercise of judicial responsibility, martial law is being applied in serious cases which warrant such actions. In other instances, regular civilian courts continue to function.

To have democracy flourish in the country, it is imperative that there should be respect for law and order and discipline. In this respect, diplomats based in Yangon should understand and appreciate the delicacy of the prevailing situation and that responsibilities also rest with them to help the government in its efforts to establish a firm democratic state. It need hardly be mentioned that the peace and stability of Myanmar will contribute to the peace and stability of the region as a whole.

SLORC Holds 105th News Conference 5 Oct

BK0610115790 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister for agriculture and forests and for livestock breeding and fisheries; Major General Abel, minister for trade and for planning and finance; and the Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] held the 105th news conference at 0930 this morning in the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense.

Speaking first at the news conference, Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister for agriculture and forests and for livestock breeding and fisheries, explained that in the meeting with local and foreign journalists today he would like to explain the long-term prospects for the state and private sector in agriculture, forestry, and livestock breeding sectors for the public who want to concentrate on economics. [passage omitted]

Lt. Gen. Chit Swe said there is a great need for the state and cooperative sectors as well as the private sector to invest extensively in the country's agricultural development. He said for that reason the government has been carrying out reforms in the market economy to enable more participation from the private sector in agriculture. [passage omitted]

He said presently long- and short-term goals that would benefit the coming generations have been laid down for the exploration and utilization of the country's resources. For instance, he said work on water resouces and land development, including major projects such as Mu Valley and Sittang Valley projects, are now underway. He said special irrigation dam projects will as much as possible be implemented in stages and that assistance from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank will have to be sought in the long term. [passage omitted]

He said efforts are being made to increase the dissemination of modern agricultural techniques, quality seeds, chemical fertilizers, farm machinery, and other forms of assistance, and to promote the processing and trading of agricultural products. He said the government is working on land acquisition by the private sector for the production of agricultural goods. He said the government, in working in joint ventures with local and foreign entrepreneurs in agro-business, has received numerous proposals from abroad. Some of these proposals covering long-term periods of up to 60 and 90 years have been put on hold temporarily. He said free trade, the export of locally-produced agricultural goods, and the import of goods from abroad are now allowed.

He said the weather conditions this year are good and crop production has improved compared to previous years. He said paddy production, especially, has surpassed last year's production and the situation is good in general. The paddy production this year is sufficient for local consumption and export. [passage omitted]

Speaking on the forestry sector, Lt. Gen. Chit Swe said with the exception of teak, the private sector has been allowed to produce assorted hardwood. [passage omitted] He said constant attention is being paid to forest conservation and efforts are being made to ensure the annual allowable cut [three preceding words in English] does not exceed the sustainable yield [two preceding words in English]. He said the annual production of teak is 335,000 tons and annual production of assorted hardwood is 1.3 million tons. [passage omitted]

In response to a question from an ANTARA correspondent U Hla Htway on this year's paddy production and situation compared to the previous year, Minister Lt. Gen. Chit Swe replied this year's paddy cultivation was 11.5 million acres out of the available 12.3 million acres in Myanmar [Burma]. He said as weather conditions are good, the estimated paddy production this year is 13.5 million tons, exceeding last year's production. [passage omitted]

Next, Major General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade, explained matters on trade and finance. [passage omitted]

Speaking on monetary matters, the minister said at present we have not thought about changing the exchange rate and that the external debt situation of the country is insignificant compared to other countries. He said our country's external debt is only U.S. $4.2 billion. [passage omitted] He said efforts are being made to stabilize prices in domestic trade and that the rice price situation is good, while programs are being drawn up to stabilize and bring down the price of cooking oil. He said as mentioned earlier, the exchange rate will not be changed. He said only a minority will benefit from the change in exchange rates, which can be detrimental to the general public. [passage omitted]

Explaining the appointment of the new U.S. ambassador to Myanmar, the Information Committee cited the 9 June 1990 issue of the WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, which carried the press release on the agreement of the Government of the Union of Myanmar to the appointment of Mr. Frederick Vreeland as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Union of Myanmar. Three days after Myanmar announced the agreement to the appointment, Mr. Frederick Vreeland met with U Thein Toe, Myanmar ambassador to Italy, in Rome on 12 June 1990. Mr. Vreeland had been serving as vice president at John Cabot International College since 1989. During the meeting, Mr. Vreeland expressed his desire for friendship with Myanmar and said he would try his utmost to promote friendship with our country.

However, on 2 October 1990, the BBC's Burmese Service reported that Mr. Frederick Vreeland, U.S. ambassador-designate to Myanmar, had expressed his belief that the imposition of economic sanctions on Myanmar, for the failure of the Myanmar military government to transfer power and to release political prisoners, was inevitable.

At the meeting of the SLORC held on 4 October 1990, it was decided to withdraw the agreement to the appointment of Mr. Vreeland as ambassador. The responsible person has been informed of the matter through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Information Committee explained that there have been reports in the U.S. press on Mr. Vreeland. The 4 October issue of the WASHINGTON TIMES, published in the United States, reported that Mr. Vreeland covered up his 33-year service as a CIA official and listed himself as a State Department employee in his biography.

The Burmese Service of the VOA in its morning transmission on 4 October 1990 reported that the U.S. Senate is likely to delete the the nomination of Mr. Vreeland over likely objections to his past assignments and that a special congressional hearing on him will be held on 4 October 1990. Furthermore, the 4 October issue of THE NATION newspaper published in Thailand reports Mr. Vreeland was once investigated in connection with the assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II in Rome in 1981. The paper also contained reports on his involvement in disinformation on Soviet and Bulgarian involvement in the assassination attempt.

Further explaining about Mr. Vreeland, the committee said there has been implied criticism within Myanmar for not taking any action on such foreign interference by the CIA. The committee said: For instance, at a gathering marking the second anniversary of the release from jail of U Aung Gyi, patron of the Union Nationalities Democracy Party, held last 25 August there was discussion of a lack of response to CIA interference. Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the SLORC, stated on 9 May 1990 that the current U.S. ambassador to Burma once had connections to the CIA.

The committee explained that following the agreement to the appointment of Mr. Frederick Vreeland as the new ambassador, the two governments on 29 June 1990 discussed the matter of recalling Mr. Levin within a normally accepted time. Under normal practice, following the agreement to the appointment of a new ambassador, that new envoy is sent within four to six weeks. These reports came out four months after the appointment of the ambassador was accepted. Therefore, the SLORC had to make the decision to withdraw agreement to appointment of Mr. Vreeland as the new ambassador.

The Information Committee then took the opportunity to present a letter reflecting the position and attitude of Burton Levin, U.S. ambassador to the Union of Myanmar. The letter was written in response to a letter from a political party to the U.S. ambassador. The letter describes Mr. Levin as a very influential figure in the Myanmar political scene and asks him to act as a mediator between the government and political parties. The letter ends with an expression of hope for the U.S. Government to bring about a peaceful solution between the Myanmar military leaders and Myanmar people and refers to the transfer of power to the elected representatives in recognition of the wishes of Myanmar as the most effective means of reconciliation.

The letter reads, in English: My government continues to hope for a peaceful resolution to the differences between the military leadership and the people of Myanmar and has said so on many occasions. We also believe the most effective means of the reconciliation would be for the SLORC to respect the wishes of the people of Myanmar by handing over power to their elected representatives. Sincerely, Burton Levin, ambassador.

The journalists can see the extent of interference in our internal affairs.

Continuing, the Information Committee explained a report carried by the morning transmission of the BBC Burmese service today—5 October 1990—on the condemnation and criticism of the government by New York-based Committee for Protection of Journalists on the arrest of four persons in connection with antigovernment publications.

Explaining the matter, the Information Committee said there are numerous legal and illegal publications in our country. Recently there have been numerous publications, including those by the National League for Democracy, the Union Nationalities Democracy Party, the Unity and Development Party headed formerly by Thakin Soe, and Widura Thakin Chit Maung [leader of Democratic Front for National Reconstruction]. The Information Committee said there are also illegal publications and that action is being taken against those which have deliberately discredited the state government. The veteran journalist would know well whether the accusations against us are true or not or fair. It is clear our government allows publications that abide by the laws and regulations and that action is taken only against those publications containing false reports about the Defense Services and the government. It is clear action is not being taken against publications that operate within the framework of rules and that do not infringe on the rights of others.

Next, explaining the foreign policy of Myanmar, the Information Committee said the Indian ambassador to the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to the SLORC chairman on 27 September. On that occasion Senior General [Saw Maung] told the ambassador the Burmese service of the VOA in its morning transmission on 31 August 1990 carried a report on the vote in the Lower House approving an independent administration for the state radio and television in India. He said Indian radio and television services will be organized as independently administered corporations before March 1991. The report was also carried by the AIR [ALL INDIA RADIO] on the same day.

The SLORC chairman told the Indian ambassador the broadcast of AIR at present can be interpreted to be the broadcast of the Indian Government. The SLORC chairman told the ambassador AIR has been regularly carrying statements by insurgents and has even carried statements by exiled Tin Maung Win, secretary of the Democratic Alliance of Burma and the Committee for Restoration of Democracy in Burma. He said, therefore, AIR is acting like a broadcasting station of insurgents.

The Information Committee said our country has steadfastly practised an independent and active foreign policy based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Our country has not participated in any regional organization. On 1 June 1990 the morning transimission of the AIR Burmese service carried a report in patronizing tones saying India could assist Myanmar in economic rehabilitation and political ties will be improved if Myanmar joins the SAARC, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. On many occasions there have been repeated calls on our country to join ASEAN, the Organization of Southeast Asian Nations.

The Information Commmittee said we have no plans to join any organization. It is only working in accordance with an independent and active foreign policy and national interests. In particular, the committee said interference in internal affairs by diplomats is not warranted. We have never interfered in the affairs of others, and we expect the others to reciprocate.

Continuing, the Information Committee explained the attitude and stand of the SLORC, saying that after successfully holding the multiparty democratic general elections, the SLORC has issued Declaration 1/90 and has carried out its work in stages. The National League for Democracy [NLD], which had won the majority of seats in the elections, issued the Gandhi Declaration. In comparison, SLORC Declaration 1/90 was issued on 27 July 1990, while the Gandhi Declaration of the NLD was issued on 28 July 1990. There is meaning in the one-day difference.

The SLORC did not issue Declaration 1/90 after the Gandhi Declaration was issued. It was issued according to its original plan, before the release of the Gandhi Declaration. Those concerned are to follow the declaration of the current government. However, following the release of the Gandhi Declaration, the NLD held their Central Executive Committee meeting 5/90 on 17 September 1990 and passed two major resolutions. One of them is to send the NLD programs to the SLORC and the other to propose to hold talks. Regarding the proposal to hold talks, we have already made an announcement on the matter. It has been declared that as the SLORC is not a political party, it has no reason to hold negotiations outside the framework of the law. The SLORC sent a reply to the NLD in a letter dated 29 August 1990. Paragraph 15 of the letter refers to a notice on the necessity of coordination in the future and says as the SLORC is not a political party, it has no reason to hold political negotiations outside the framework of law. The letter was signed by secretary-1 himself and was sent officially to the Central Executive Committee of the NLD.

We will continue to work in accordance with Declaration 1/90 which urges elected parties and independents to settle matters with the [Elections] Commission, in accordance with the law and regulations to convene the People's Assembly according to Declaration 1/90. Elected parties and persons are to file election expenses within 75 days in Form 18 according to Article 81 of Elections Law and to submit them to the township zone elections commissions concerned.

The parties concerned have submitted their expense accounts to township zone elections commissions. They are to be submitted to the SLORC by 16 October 1990. The letter to that effect, dated 2 October 1990, has been sent to various parties. The Information Committee says if there is a discrepancy between the expense accounts submitted to the township zones and the SLORC and any fraudulent practices, action will be taken according to the law. The stand of the SLORC is to adhere steadfastly to Declaration 1/90.

Continuing, the Information Committee said we have heard reports in the country implying the disappearance of the country's leader. The Information Committee said the country's leader has not disappeared. Senior General Saw Maung, commander in chief of the Defense Services, is the leader of the country today. Senior General Saw Maung heads the SLORC government, which is a de facto government. He is freely making decisions, administrating, and ruling the country. Senior General Saw Maung is making his utmost efforts for the country in pure goodwill. He himself has stated he takes full responsibility for actions during his term of office. The Information Committee would like to say through the veteran journalists that the country's leader has not disappeared and that the country's leader today is Senior General Saw Maung. [passage omitted]

The news conference ended at 1215.

NLD Organizer Arrested for 'Disparaging Papers'

BK0810150590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] U Maung Maung, 40—an organizer of the National League for Democracy [NLD] in Yenangyaung, and son of U Soe Maung of No. 1600, Padamya quarter, (Yeni-gin Taung) ward, Yenangyaung—who had personally written papers that defame and criticize the government and the leaders as well as made arrangements for their public distribution, was arrested on 6 September 1990 together with the disparaging papers he had written.

U Maung Maung distributed in Yenangyaung on (?2) September 1990 a publication he had in his possession—

issue 3/90 of U Wisara Hnint U Ottama Ko-Sarr-Pyu. The publication maligned, contradicted, and criticized the government and the leaders.

In addition, U Maung Maung was arrested together with 11 copies of Pe-Tin-Than—a publication which he himself had authored to contradict, criticize, and make disparaging remarks about the government and the leaders. He was arrested while making arrangements to distribute the publication to the public.

Effective action will be taken against U Maung Maung in accordance with the law, because he had distributed among the people as well as authored and made plans to distribute among the people illegal publications that make false accusations to agitate unrest in the country and to make the people lose respect for the government.

1,000 Monks Reportedly Demonstrate in Rangoon

BK0510150990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1430 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Bangkok, Oct 5 (AFP)—About 1,000 Buddhist monks staged a peaceful demonstration against Burma's ruling military earlier this week in Rangoon, travellers from the Burmese capital said here Friday. The monks first attended a meeting on Wednesday where they expressed support for a religious campaign by members of the clergy against the Armed Forces in the primarily Buddhist nation, the travellers said, citing eyewitness reports.

The monks, from about 60 monasteries in the Burmese capital, then walked in a single-file procession to the city's most revered shrine, the Shwedagon Pagoda, drawing a crowd of thousands, they said. The demonstration, on a day marking the end of Buddhist lent, was watched by a large number of armed soldiers, but there was no attempt to break it up and it dispersed peacefully without arrests being made, the travellers said.

Monks in the central city of Mandalay began a campaign early last month to refuse alms from soldiers and members of their families and to boycott ceremonies for military families. This show of protest has since spread to other cities in Burma, a country of about 41 million of whom 85 per cent are Buddhist, including Rangoon, which has about 4.5 million people.

Burmese generals seized power in a bloody coup two years ago to crush a nationwide pro-democracy movement spearheaded by student activists and Buddhist monks. The main pro-democracy party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), won a landslide victory in elections in May.

Dissident Students Protest UN Development Aid

BK0910054.90 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Bangkok, Oct 9 (AFP)—Burma's main dissident student organization protested Tuesday against United Nations Development Program (UNDP) aid projects in the military-ruled Southeast Asian nation. "We strongly condemn the UNDP for considering this aid at this time in Burma's history," the All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF) said in a statement.

The statement referred to two projects which it said UNDP had agreed to in Burma, a 2.5 million dollar program for reforestation and a 17 million dollar package for development of the country's border areas. "We call on all members of the United Nations to stand with the people of Burma and demand that the UNDP withdraw its planned development projects until the people's elected government has been given full power," the statement said.

Generals seized power in Burma in a bloody coup two years ago to crush a nationwide movement demanding a Western-style democracy that was led by students and members of the Buddhist clergy. Elections earlier this year resulted in a landslide victory for the pro-democracy National League for Democracy (NLD) but Rangoon's junta has so far declined to transfer power to the NLD.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commission Chairman Announces Election Date

BK0510142990 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] General elections to contest the seats of the House of Representatives and State Legislative Assemblies for Peninsular Malaysia will be held on 21 October, while similar elections for Sabah and Sarawak will be held on 20 and 21 October. Tan Sri Abdul Kadir, chairman of the Election Commission, anounced this at a meeting in Ipoh this evening. Nomination day will be on Thursday [11 October].

Tan Sri Abdul Kadir announced the elections timetable in his capacity as Election Commission chairman before he retires this month. The meeting also discussed elections preparations at all levels. The coming elections will be held one year earlier than scheduled. The current seventh parliament's term expires in October next year. The last general elections were held on 3 August 1986.

Commonwealth Invited To Witness Elections

BK0610081190 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Malaysia has invited Commonwealth observers to witness the eighth general elections to be held this month. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said he had informed the Commonwealth Secretariat on preparations for the general elections. They include the dissolution of Parliament as well as the nomination of polling day. The Foreign Ministry will make the necessary arrangements for the observers. They are allowed to meet with the opposition as well as to prepare reports.

Malaysia's eighth general elections will be held on the 20th and 21st of this month. Nomination day will be Thursday [11 October] next week. At stake are 180 parliamentary and 351 state seats.

Mahathir To 'Drop' Two Ministers Before Polls

BK0910101290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0945 GMT 9 Oct 90

[By Mervin Nambiar]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 9 (AFP)—Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed's coalition, facing its toughest general election in more than 30 years later this month, will drop two cabinet ministers and up to five deputy ministers, officials said Tuesday.

They said that the two ministerial casualties were Welfare Services Minister Mustapha Mohamad from Dr. Mahathir's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) which dominates the National Front coalition and Health Minister Ng Cheng Kiat from the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA). The deputy ministers who will not make the 11-party coalition's line-up for the polls scheduled for October 20 and 21 include Deputy Trade Minister Kok Wee Kiat and Deputy Culture and Tourism Minister Ng Cheng Kuai, both from the MCA. Also dropped are two ethnic Indian deputy ministers, S. Subramaniam and K. Pathmanaban, who are victims of infighting within the Malaysian Indian Congress, the mostly Tamil component of Dr. Mahathir's coalition of largely racially based parties.

The stranglehold on power long enjoyed by the National Front and its forerunner, the Alliance, is being challenged for the first time by a grand alliance of opposition parties led by former Trade Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah. Mr. Razaleigh, 53, who has vowed to overthrow Dr. Mahathir, has said that his coalition would ensure straight fights between the government and opposition in as many constituencies as possible to prevent opposition votes being split.

Mr. Razaleigh has fashioned a loose coalition grouping his Semangat '46, comprising UMNO dissidents, with fundamentalists from the Parti Islam, the mostly ethnic Chinese-backed Democratic Action Party and several other smaller parties.

National Front sources said the coalition would shed at least one more UMNO deputy minister and another from a component party.

Mr. Mustapha said Monday he was voluntarily ruling himself out of the contest for a seat in the 180-member Dewan Rakyat, the lower house, after a meeting with Dr. Mahathir.

Mr. Ng, the health minister, offered to withdraw after an abortive bid to overthrow MCA President Ling Liong Sik, who is also transport minister in Dr. Mahathir's 26-member cabinet.

Analysts said the National Front faces a backlash in the southern state of Johore following Dr. Mahathir's announcement Saturday that his former deputy, Musa Hitam, now a special envoy to the United Nations, would not contest the polls. "As far as we can see the others dropped are political lightweights who cannot do much harm," said a senior UMNO official who spoke on condition of anonymity. He said Dr. Mahathir had also summoned all MPs to be dropped for private meetings to urge them to continue working for the party and not undermine its election campaign in the face of the strong opposition challenge.

UMNO sources said Dr. Mahathir's announcement that Mr. Musa, 56, was staying out could alienate tens of thousands of the former deputy premier's supporters in Johore, traditionally a National Front stronghold. Mr. Musa, now in New York, Tuesday released a statement here saying his decision to stay out of the polls was not due to any differences with Dr. Mahathir, but he did not elaborate on his reasons for quitting politics.

Several of Mr. Musa's lieutenants in Johore are also being dropped from the National Front's line-up while former Welfare Minister Shahrir Samad, a Musa confidant, was expected to officially turn down his candidacy later Tuesday. Mr. Musa quit the deputy premiership in 1986 citing irreconcilable differences with Dr. Mahathir and joined an abortive bid by Mr. Razaleigh to unseat the prime minister as UMNO leader the following year.

Singapore

Government To Lift Ban on SRV, Cambodia

BK0510145290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1136 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Singapore, Oct 5 (AFP)—Singapore will lift its ban on investments in Vietnam and Cambodia as soon as the Supreme National Council of Cambodia is represented at the United Nations, it was announced here Friday. A Foreign Ministry statement said the government would lift the ban imposed earlier this year in view of recent developments that have significantly improved prospects for a political settlement in Cambodia.

Singapore imposed a ban on its citizens' investing in Vietnam and Cambodia because of the Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Cambodia.

The statement said the ban would be lifted because of recent agreement among the various Cambodian factions to accept a U.N. plan for a comprehensive political settlement. The plan calls for U.N. supervision and verification of the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces and free and fair elections. The Phnom Penh government and the three Cambodian resistance factions agreed to the plan at a meeting in Jakarta last month.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Leaves for India, Discusses SNC

BK0710121790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] At 1500 on 7 September, responding to the invitation of His Excellency Vishwanath Pratap Singh, prime minister of the Republic of India, Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, left Phnom Penh for New Delhi to pay an official visit to the Republic of India.

Seeing off the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers at Pochentong Airport were Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Mat Ly and Comrade Ney Pena, members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairmen of the Central Control Commission; Comrade Nguon Nhel, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and agriculture minister; Comrade Sar Kheng, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chef de cabinet of the party Central Committee, and chairman of the Central Organization Commission; Comrade Say Chhum, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and standing vice chairman of the Council of Ministers' office; Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and defense minister; representatives of comrade alternate members of the party Central Committee; and many representatives from party and state establishments and mass organizations. Representatives from the Indian Embassy and from friendly countries' embassies accredited to Cambodia were also present.

Before leaving Phnom Penh, Comrade Hun Sen said: I have great hope on this visit to India, which will contribute to the search for a political solution to the conflict in Cambodia. India is the cochairman of a major committee of the Paris conference and will play an active role in this committee to work out a detailed agreement of a political solution. India will also play an active role if it is elected into UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]. I also hope that through this visit, the existing relations of friendship between Cambodia and India will be further strengthened and expanded.

Concerning a solution to the Cambodian problem, Comrade Hun Sen said: The time has come for pushing for activities moving toward working out a detailed agreement of a political solution, as the framework document and the Supreme National Council [SNC] already exist. I would like to draw the international community's attention to this: What is the central point of the issue? Is it The already established SNC or Sihanouk? Is it quickly working out an agreement of a political solution or waiting for Sihanouk? If the Samdech Sihanouk issue is not solved, should one keep extending indefinitely and destroying the Jakarta joint statement, which is in fact abolishing the entire SNC and also destroying the framework document of the five major powers? I think ending the Cambodian people's suffering is more important than anything else. Therefore, an individual who has created problems for himself should not be allowed to become an obstacle to a political solution. I would like to stress again that we are not responsible for the fact Samdech Sihanouk is outside the SNC; this is his own doing. We are ready to accommodate if asked. However, our desire should also be understood. The principle of equality should be implemented. Tolerance and patience also have their limits.

Comrade Hun Sen concluded by saying if the Sihanouk issue cannot be solved, the SNC should be made to proceed in accordance with the formula of cochairmen or that of rotational chairmanship to solve the problem. This is because if the SNC cannot proceed, there will be no UNTAC in Cambodia. Everything should start from the SNC.

Meets With Indian Ministers

BK0910062090 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0442 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 9—Prime Minister Hun Sen met separately in Hyderabad House (Government Guest House), New Delhi, yesterday morning with Indian Minister of State for Commerce A. Sreedharan and Minister of Finance and Acting Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

In these meetings the Indian ministers spoke about the relations of friendship between Cambodia and India and about cultural similarities between the two countries.

Indian Minister of State for Commerce A. Sreedharan, expressed his country's intention to promote trade relations between the two countries.

He also said that India is ready to train youth from other countries, including Cambodia.

The question of joint venture in Cambodia was also raised. So far the Indian private company "Cimmco" has proposed three projects in Cambodia: a small hydroelectric power station in Kompong Kantuot, a sugar refinery and a fertilizer factory. The first project is under discussion now.

Trade between Cambodia and India started in 1988 through the Indian company of "Cimmco".

So far Cambodia has imported from India goods including spare parts for textile mills and 21,000 tons of cement roughly worth 3,695,926 U.S. dollars.

This year Cambodia has been contacting "Cimmco" to import locomotive spare parts worth 840,000 U.S. dollars.

It has exported to India goods, including rubber roughly worth 1.5 million U.S. dollars.

In meeting with Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Prime Minister Hun Sen asked for non-interest credit for the development of railway service, the setting up of small hydro-electric power plants, a fertilizer factory, the upgrading of the jute bag factory in Don Teav and for the import of spare parts for textile mills.

He also asked for aid in agriculture, industry, transportation, health care, and for the restoration of the Angkor Wat temple and provision of foodstuff for war victims, and for trade concessional credit.

Mr. Dandavate spoke of the possibility of India's helping to meet the shortage of foodstuff for war victims.

Phnom Penh Says Sihanouk 'Obstacle' to Solution

BK0910065490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Station commentary: "Should an Individual Be Allowed To Remain an Obstacle to the Cambodian Solution?"]

[Text] Even now, although the Supreme National Council [SNC] which represents Cambodia's national sovereignty, independence, and unity has already been formed in Jakarta, the process to seek a solution to the Cambodian problem remains deadlocked. The direct victims of the consequences of this problem are the Cambodian people who continue to face the misery and losses of property and lives caused by a civil war that the other Cambodian side has continued to kindle. We would like to ask: Who has caused this deadlock? What does that party want?

After the warring Cambodian parties agreed on 10 September in Jakarta to establish the SNC, both the Cambodian people and the peace- and justice-loving public around the world warmly welcomed this and firmly hoped the conflict in Cambodia would end in the near future. Those who attended the Jakarta informal meeting—particularly Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, and Khieu Samphan, representative of the Pol Pot clique who used to be very obstinate—have all acclaimed this. But, a few days later, with the ink hardly dry on the Jakarta joint communique, the other Cambodian side turned to create another obstacle to prevent the SNC from functioning. That is, at the first SNC meeting in Bangkok, the other Cambodian side sternly demanded the SNC accept Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its chairman and 13th member, an act running counter to the Jakarta joint communique and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point statement. We would like to ask: Who has kept Samdech Norodom Sihanouk outside the SNC?

Those who have followed the situation in Cambodia know well it is Samdech Norodom Sihanouk who has put himself outside the SNC. From the meeting held in Bangkok at the beginning of 1990 to the Jakarta meeting in early June 1990, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Comrade Chairman Hun Sen agreed on the establishment of the SNC on the six-plus-six formula. But at the September meeting in Jakarta when the SNC composition should have been finalized, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk refused to join the SNC and declared a six-month leave of absence.

This is why Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's name does not appear on the roster of the 12-member SNC. However, out of our goodwill to settle the Cambodian problem and strictly pursuing the State of Cambodia's policy not to place Samdech Norodom Sihanouk outside the political circle, the State of Cambodia has announced its readiness to let Samdech Norodom Sihanouk join the SNC should the other side so propose. Moreover, for the sake of justice and equity, the State of Cambodia has proposed that if Samdech Norodom Sihanouk becomes SNC chairman, an SNC member from the State of Cambodia should be made the vice chairman. Our goodwill regarding this matter was exploited and rejected by the other side. They want Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to become the chairman but are afraid for the State of Cambodia's side to become the vice chairman. That is the main obstacle to the Cambodian solution.

We would like to ask: Should we continue to allow an individual to block the political solution to the Cambodian problem or should we intensify our efforts toward this solution? Who—Samdech Norodom Sihanouk or the Cambodian people—is the key to a political solution?

According to diplomatic sources in Bangkok, on Saturday, 6 October, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk declared if he was not elected SNC chairman, he would leave for Pyongyang on 12 October. Such a statement clearly shows, now as in the past, Samdech Sihanouk has never given any thought to the fate of the Cambodian people. He has only kept himself busy, afraid of not being elected SNC chairman or being given a high post, even if it is not a powerful one. This is why he has made himself into an obstacle barring the process toward peace for the Cambodian people.

In such a situation, we think if the other Cambodian groups really want to resolve the Cambodian problem through peaceful means, they should get rid of this personal obstacle and agree to attend the SNC meeting on the formula of a cochairmanship or a rotating chairmanship system to settle all the remaining urgent problems. Otherwise, sooner or later, the Jakarta joint communique will vanish; the SNC will also disappear. By then, the five framework documents of the permanent members of the UN Security Council will become meaningless, and there will be no UN authority in the transitional period in Cambodia, known as UNTAC for short. This is because everything emanates from the SNC. If that is the case, history will condemn anyone who lacks the goodwill.

Resistance Said Not Sincere in Search for Peace

BK0610170090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Station commentary: "Does the Other Cambodian Party Really Want To Settle the Cambodian Problem Peacefully?"]

[Text] Lately, the three Cambodian groups of the other side appear for the first time to have softened their attitude in the process of settling the Cambodian problem. They have agreed to participate in the Jakarta meeting, to finalize the composition of the Supreme National Council [SNC] according to the six-plus-six formula, and to accept the framework document forged by the five major powers. We want to ask if the other Cambodian party really wants to resolve the Cambodian problem through peaceful means.

Watchers of Cambodian events give the straighforward answer that the recent activities carried out by the tripartite coalition are not meant to resolve the Cambodian problem but are a set of tricks to mislead international opinion. This means neither Samdech Sihanouk, Son Sann, nor the Khmer Rouge Polpotists have the slightest genuine goodwill in seeking peace for the Cambodian people. As always, they desire to employ military means to settle the Cambodian problem to return the genocidal Pol Pot regime to power in Cambodia to slaughter the people again. Their plan of finalizing the SNC composition is to profit from the body representing Cambodia's sovereignty and independence.

Since the withdrawal of the United States' support to them, and especially with the growing moves to expel them from the United Nations, the tripartite resistance groups, to circumvent the trend, have pretended to join the SNC while preventing the supreme council from continuing with its work. What is significantly important for them is to demand that Samdech Sihanouk be elected as SNC chairman as well as its 13th member. This is against the Jakarta joint statement and is also unacceptable to the State of Cambodia. As for other pressing key issues—such as appointing and sending a delegation to the 45th UN General Assembly, a voluntary cease-fire, and the cessation of foreign military aid—necessary for a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem, they have completely ignored them. This is their true nature and well-determined goal.

Everyone knows to date Samdech Sihanouk and Son Sann, who boast to be patriots, have maintained their close alliance with the Polpotist butchers. Both the samdech and Son Sann are extremely anxious the Pol Pot group be excluded from a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. When the Cambodian people have over the past 12 years striven with every possible means to prevent the return of the monstrous regime, Samdech Sihanouk and Son Sann have done their utmost to protect the Pol Pot clique, secretly channeling aid provided by the West to the bloodthirsty regime. As for the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] of Samdech Sihanouk and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] of Son Sann, they are nothing but cruel and barbarous power- hungry groups. These groups, set up in the wake of the downfall of the Pol Pot gang, have been designed only to reinforce the latter.

Since the complete repatriation of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia over a year ago, the FUNCINPEC and KPNLF have been conducting activities no less cruel and savage than those of the Pol Pot gang. If those groups are really patriotic, why did they not rescue the Cambodian people who were being slaughtered by the Pol Pot gang in 1975-1978? They claim to be freedom fighters, but in reality they are fighting only for the dollar.

Under the banner of fighting Vietnam, they have drafted Cambodian refugees living in camps along the Cambodian border into their armies. They have sent those people into the country without providing them with sufficient supplies and medicine, thereby causing them to become sick and die. As for themselves, they have led a life of luxury, patronizing bars and brothels in the refugee camps. Therefore, if a political settlement comes up, it is useless for the Cambodian people to vote for them, for by that time they would certainly be penniless. As such, they are trying to prolong the war to reap more dollars.

The Pol Pot clique is the worst. While Khieu Samphan pretended to seek diplomatic compromise, Pol Pot, Nuon Chea, Chhit Choeun called Mok, and others whose hands have been stained with the people's blood, planned the "rust eating away the iron" strategy to seize power through military force. Everyone knows the Pol Pot group will win nothing in free and fair elections in Cambodia; all Cambodian people hate them. Therefore, as they realize they will be defeated in general elections in Cambodia, they have no reason to agree sincerely to an election that would constitute a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem. The latest diplomatic activities conducted by the other Cambodian party are only magic tricks.

The State of Cambodia, in all circumstances, has the goodwill to resolve the Cambodian problem. Comrade Hun Sen has repeatedly stated the Cambodian State's Government respects the Cambodian people's will expressed through free and fair elections in Cambodia.

Phnom Penh Reports Army Actions in Late Sep

BK0910033790 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] In the last week of September, the regular, regional, militia, and police forces throughout the country launched eight counterattacks against the enemies, inflicting total losses on them. In sum, we put out of action 103 enemy soldiers, including 39 killed, four captured, and 60 others who surrendered; wounded 41 others; destroyed two boats; and seized 42 assorted weapons, 5,670 rounds of assorted ammunition, four boats, and some war materiel.

Son Sann Asks Thailand To Arrange New Session

BK0810092890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] His Excellency [HE] Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and member of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC], proposed the meeting of the 12 SNC members be resumed in Bangkok and said the participation by the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia might help make this SNC session successful.

In a message dated 4 October and sent to Thai Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan, HE Son Sann asked the Royal Thai Government to help arrange this meeting as soon as possible on the grounds that this would be in compliance with the advice of the UN Security Council through Resolution 668 of 1990, which stipulates the SNC should promptly elect its chairman to implement the Jakarta agreement on the formation of the SNC. HE Son Sann stressed the participation of the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia in the SNC meeting might help make the meeting successful as the Cambodian factions would be able to ask the cochairmen to interpret correctly the documents of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the Jakarta agreement documents.

HE Son Sann is currently in Bangkok. In an interview with a Voice of the Khmer correspondent yesterday, he appealed to the four Cambodian factions to agree quickly on the election of an SNC chairman to bring an end to the Cambodian conflict. He stressed the leaders of all Cambodian parties should have pity for the Cambodian people who have been suffering for the past 20 years.

KPNLF Urges French, Indonesian Help on SNC

BK0710023090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] A Cambodian non-communist resistance leader yesterday appealed to France and Indonesia to help his country's Supreme National Council [SNC] resolve the problem of its chairmanship.

In a communique issued yesterday, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] said its top leader, former Premier Son Sann, called for the participation of Foreign Ministers Roland Dumas and Ali Alatas of France and Indonesia respectively in a Supreme National Council meeting. Dumas and Alatas are co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC], the supreme international forum set up to solve the 11-year conflict. The SNC was formed by all the Cambodian factions in Jakarta early last month to arrange for a truce and guide the country through a United Nations-run general election. It failed in its first meeting in Bangkok three weeks ago to resolve the issue of its chairmanship.

The resistance, grouping the two non-communist factions under Son Sann and Sihanouk with the Khmer Rouge, wanted Sihanouk to be SNC chairman but their rival in Phnom Penh laid down a condition that Prime Minister Hun Sen be elected vice-chairman. This was rejected by the resistance. The resistance insisted that Sihanouk must be unconditionally elected as chairman under the Jakarta accord, while the Phnom Penh Government countered that the accord did not say so.

Son Sann said the PICC co-chairman's participation would be vital for the SNC meeting "....so that the Cambodian parties could call on them to provide the right interpretation of the (Jakarta) agreement."

Sihanouk Might Leave Beijing for DPRK 12 Oct

BK0610095990 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 2300 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Bangkok said His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will travel to North Korea next week if there is no agreement on electing him to the chairmanship of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. According to the sources, the samdech indicated he will leave Beijing for North Korea on 12 October if there is no agreement among the four Cambodian parties, who are the SNC members, on electing him as chairman and leader of the SNC to lead a delegation of the SNC to participate in the current session of the UN General Assembly.

At the Jakarta meeting on Cambodia in September, the four Cambodian parties fully accepted the peace plan forged by the five major powers—the permanent members of the UN Security Council—as a basis for settling the war in Cambodia and agreed to establish a Cambodian SNC composed of members of the four contending Cambodian parties.

Nguyen Co Thach 'Openly Opposes' Documents

BK0710075290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Station editorial: "Nguyen Co Thach Openly Opposes the Document of the Five Permanent Members of the

UN Security Council, the Jakarta Document, and the Resolution of the UN Security Council"]

[Text] In his address at the 4 October session of the UN General Assembly [UNGA], Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was openly opposed to the document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], the Jakarta document, and the 19 September resolution of the UNSC.

In these three documents, basic frameworks are formulated for comprehensively and politically resolving the Vietnamese war of aggresssion against Cambodia with a view to restoring independence and peace to Cambodia, allowing the Cambodian people to enjoy their right to self-determination, and achieving national reconciliation. The Cambodian nation, the entire Cambodian people, the tripartite Cambodian resistance, the people and countries in the region, and the peace- and indepedence-loving movement throughout the world have enthusiastically welcomed and fully endorsed the blueprints. Only the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh side have opposed the documents. They recently blew hot and cold on and were indirectly against the documents. They used different tricks to hamper and destroy the documents. Vietnam and Phnom Penh used ruses from left and right to block the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC] headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. Now, at the UNGA, Nguyen Co Thach has openly voiced opposition to the documents forged by the UNSC and in Jakarta.

Nguyen Co Thach's words at the UNGA reflect Vietnam's activities of aggression on the battlefield against Cambodia. The Vietnamese have continuously intensified their military activities everywhere on Cambodia's battlefield. They have ceaselessly shipped fresh troops and war equipment from Vietnam to Cambodia. In four days—on 10, 15, 28, and 29 September 1990—the Vietnamese sent 2,200 fresh troops from Vietnam to Cambodia. The Hanoi authorities' goal has not changed in the least. As always, they intend to eliminate the patriotic resistance forces so they can further occupy Cambodia in accordance with their Indochinese policy and strategy. Their aim in the 12-year invasion of Cambodia is to eradicate the resistance and occupy Cambodia forever. However, despite their all-out efforts, the Vietnamese have not been able to swallow Cambodia to date. Now, together with the document hammered out by the five members of the UNSC, the Vietnamese are no longer able to annex Cambodia.

The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh side can never rid themselves of the three documents. The documents are the greatest force upheld by the entire Cambodian people, the people and countries in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific, and the peace- and independence-loving countries worldwide. The documents are also endorsed by the entire United Nations and UNGA. This force will at all costs compel Vietnam and Phnom Penh to respect and implement the three documents.

With control to be carried out by a UN peacekeeping force in conjunction with the SNC headed by the samdech, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors can never hide their invading forces in Cambodia. Consequently, independence and peace will definitely be restored to Cambodia and national reconciliation can certainly be achieved. Those who are against Cambodia's cause of independence, the objective of reconciling the Cambodians, and the SNC headed by the samdech will inevitably meet their downfall.

Quick Reconvening of Paris Conference Urged

BK0610073990 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Oct 90

["Short article": "Only by Quickly Reconvening the Paris International Conference on Cambodia Can the Deadlock in Solving Vietnam's War of Aggression in Cambodia Be Broken"]

[Text] The 17-19 September session in Bangkok of the Supreme National Council [SNC] was deadlocked. The cause was the Hun Sen side's refusal to accept Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC and Hun Sen's demand to be vice chairman and lead a delegation to attend the UN General Assembly. All this was carried out with the aim of legitimizing Cambodia's occupation by the Vietnamese aggressors forever. The demand and imposition of conditions by Hun Sen and Vietnam are violations of the agreement signed by the four Cambodian parties in Jakarta on 10 September.

According to this document, the four Cambodian parties—including the Hun Sen side—agreed to accept the document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] as the basis for comprehensively solving Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia. Only by reconvening the Paris International Conference on Cambodia as quickly as possible, in accordance with UNSC Resolution 668/90 dated 20 September, can the deadlock be broken and a solution to end Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia brought about.

World Force To 'Compel' Acceptance of Sihanouk

BK0710081290 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 6 Oct 90

["Article": "Why Does Phnom Penh Prevent the Supreme National Council From Electing Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as Chairman?"]

[Text] On 10 September in Jakarta the four Cambodian parties agreed to set up a Supreme National Council [SNC] in accordance with the basic document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC]. Both the Jakarta joint statement and the document of the UNSC mention electing Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC.

However, immediately after the Jakarta meeting, the Phnom Penh side, at Vietnam's command, carried out maneuvers to prevent the SNC from electing Samdech

Norodom Sihanouk as chairman. The Phnom Penh side has imposed one condition after another as pretexts not to accept Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC so the SNC cannot be fully established. If the SNC were fully set up, this would pave the way for the Paris conference to work out details of the five permanent members' document for concrete implementation and use this as an agreement to solve and end Vietnam's war of aggression politically and comprehensively. This clealry shows Vietnam and Phnom Penh do not want a Paris agreement. With the Paris agreement, UN peacekeeping forces would be dispatched immediately to Cambodia to control the withdrawal of all types of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia. Vietnam will certainly not be able to continue occupying Cambodia. This is why Vietnam has ordered Phnom Penh to prevent constantly the election of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC. No matter how hard Vietnam and Phnom Penh try to avoid this, they will not be able to do so.

The Cambodian people will cooperate with the world's force to compel Vietnam and Phnom Penh to abide by and implement unconditionally the five documents of the UNSC and the Jakarta joint statement, which they themselves have signed, accepting Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC.

VONADK Urges SNC Headed by Sihanouk

BK0810091790 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Station editorial: "The Hanoi Vietnamese Aggressors and Phnom Penh Side Are Blocking the Establishment of the Supreme National Council Because They Are Afraid the Supreme Council and United Nations Will Jointly Verify Vietnamese Troops Hidden in Cambodia"]

[Text] Although the Hun Sen side has already reluctantly accepted the Jakarta joint statement dated 10 September 1990, the Supreme National Council [SNC] headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk still has not been established in keeping with the statement and the document hammered out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC]. The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors have ordered the Phnom Penh side to continue blocking the establishment of the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk by ceaselessly raising problems from left and right. People ask: Why have the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors ordered Phnom Penh to create a stumbling block to the establishment of the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk? The answer is very easy. There are two main reasons:

1. The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh have ants in their pants because they clearly know the five permanent members of the UNSC and the entire UNSC have decided a Supreme National Council should be established under the chairmanship of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk so the council becomes Cambodia's unique source of authority. This means that when the SNC is headed by the samdech, the Vietnamese authority in Phnom Penh will be removed.
2. The Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh clearly realize if the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is set up, the United Nations will certainly cooperate with the SNC in verifying to make sure all the Vietnamese invading forces are withdrawn from Cambodia.

These are the factors causing the Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh to become extremely frightened. As for the Cambodian people, they feel very happy, because what they need in the 12-year struggle is to restore independence and peace to Cambodia.

The aforesaid resolution adopted by the five UNSC permanent members is a great victory for the Cambodian people and the tripartite Cambodian National Resistance [CNR], which have jointly surmounted all manner of difficulties and obstacles in their arduous and tenacious 12-year struggle against the Vietnamese. It is also the success for the ASEAN and peace- and justice-loving countries worldwide, which have for 12 years provided constant valuable assistance and support to the Cambodian people's cause of independence.

The Cambodian people and the tripartite CNR are resolved, with the great victory achieved, to cooperate with the five UNSC permanent members, the entire UNSC, the ASEAN states, and the independence- and peace-loving people all over the world in thwarting the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors' and Phnom Penh side's many ruses for obstructing the establishment of the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. This is to enable the SNC and the United Nations to verify jointly and make sure all categories of the invading Vietnamese forces completely and speedily withdraw from Cambodia.

The reluctant public acceptance of the Jakarta joint statement and the five UNSC permanent members' document by the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh and their tricky maneuvers to delay the implementation of the two documents clearly show they have their back to the wall. The SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will ultimately be established. In the near future, the United Nations will, without fail, cooperate with the SNC headed by the samdech in verifying the complete withdrawal of all the Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia.

Compatriots, please, call on your children forced by the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh to fight and die in their places to return home as quickly as possible. They should not be killed for nothing in place of the Vietnamese. All the Cambodian soldiers should stop serving the Vietnamese aggressors and allowing themselves to be forced to fight and die on behalf of the Vietnamese. You should try with all possible means to escape and return to your home villages and cooperate with local elder people in demanding for an early establishment of the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. Moreover, you should join forces with the supreme council and the United Nations to blow the cover of Vietnamese hidden in your localities and to completely throw them out of Cambodia.

VOK Blames SRV for Failure of SNC Session

BK0810100990 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Political commentary: "The First Session of Cambodia's Supreme National Council Has Failed Because the Vietnamese Remain in the Country"]

[Text] Following the meeting in Jakarta on 10 September, during which an agreement on the formation of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC] was made, the Cambodian people and the world were very pleased and hopeful that peace in Cambodia would happen soon. However, the first session of the SNC in Bangkok a week later put a damper on their expectation. Why? The title of today's Voice of the Khmer political commentary is undeniably a correct answer.

The agreement in Jakarta was merely a trick of the Vietnamese to ease pressure on them. In reality, the Vietnamese have no intention whatsoever of seeking peace in Cambodia because they still benefit from their presence in this country. Peace can happen only when the Vietnamese decide to withdraw completely from Cambodia. As for the various conditions Hun Sen has set, they are only pretexts to scuttle the session. In fact, the failure of the search for a Cambodian solution began even in Jakarta itself. It was, however, thanks to the great concessions of the Cambodian resistance parties that the Jakarta meeting was saved. For instance, we consented to the demand that the Hun Sen group be allowed to enjoy as many as six seats in the SNC, while our side accepted only two seats for each faction.

Is the question of the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia still a matter of doubt? There should be no doubt. Sure, the Vietnamese remain in Cambodia. The Cambodian people throughout the country can testify to this fact. Recently, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach himself admitted the Vietnamese advisers or experts or, in other words, Vietnamese masters of the Hun Sen clique, have not yet completely withdrawn from Cambodia. For this reason, Mr. Thach said Vietnam would pull all of them out in the future, of course, without setting any deadline. However, Mr. Thach should be aware that in addition to these so-called experts, we have evidence of hidden Vietnamese soldiers. Some have been seen by the Cambodian people.

A staff member of the 330th Division of the Heng Samrin regime revealed some (?2,100) Vietnamese troops were spread along Route 10 from Battambang city to Pailin. They were under the command of a Vietnamese lieutenant colonel named (Bachung Bachinh). In addition, the Vietnamese 909th Division was positioned in Banan District, Battambang Province. Moreover, Vietnamese detectives have set up their headquarters at the former house of Mr. Cheng Heng [former Cambodian head of state] near the former Buddhist Monks Hospital [in Phnom Penh].

We are not going to open any brackets here to show the whereabouts of Vietnamese troops in the provinces and the presence of Vietnamese experts in the main institutions of the puppet Phnom Penh administration. We would like to emphasize that all these Vietnamese troops, as claimed by Hun Sen, have been hired to fight in Cambodia with a monthly salary of 50 dollars, together with all kinds of rations. This is only an excuse for the Vietnamese to plunder Cambodia's economy. Even if Hun Sen has really hired them, every Cambodian can see and realize that in so doing, Hun Sen wants to continue the war in Cambodia, to kill fellow Cambodians, to plunder Cambodia's natural resources, and to turn Cambodia into a Vietnamese province.

Besides the above examples, there are many other testimonies to prove the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia. In summary, under whatever excuse, there are always Vietnamese in Cambodia and, for this reason, Hun Sen is not ready to have peace in Cambodia at the request of the United Nations. We would like to note in conclusion that Hun Sen is not fully qualified as a Cambodian, for he continues to be a puppet serving the interests of the Vietnamese, and the Cambodian problem continues to remain unsolved.

SRV, Phnom Penh 'Intensified' Draft Criticized

BK0810093590 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Oct 90

["Short Article": "The Intensified Forcible Draft by the Vietnamese Aggressors and Phnom Penh Side Clearly Shows They Are Continuing the Vietnamese War of Aggression in Cambodia"]

[Text] Since the Phnom Penh side signed the Jakarta joint statement on 10 September 1990, the Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh have intensified the forcible draft of the people's children to fight and die in the Vietnamese's place. This is to prolong the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia so Vietnam can continue occupying and controlling Cambodia and also achieve its stinking Indochinese strategy.

In fact, the Vietnamese aggressor troops and Phnom Penh on 23 September surrounded Prey Khpos village in Prey Khpos commune, Mongkolborei District, Battambang Province, and rounded up 30 students aged from 13 to 14, then sent them by trucks to fight and die in the Vietnamese's place on Route 10-Battambang battlefield.

On 26 September, the Vietnamese aggressor troops and Phnom Penh forcibly drafted 20 youths in Khnach Chramas village, Rong Chrey commune, Mongkolborei District, Battambang Province, to fight and die on the Vietnamese's behalf on the aforesaid battlefield as well.

The Vietnamese aggressors' and Phnom Penh's intensified forcible conscription clearly shows:

1. The Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh have completely destroyed the 10 September Jakarta joint statement, the blueprint hammered out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], and the resolution 668/1990 adopted by the entire UNSC.
2. The Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh have continued stubbornly to occupy and control Cambodia.
3. The Vietnamese aggressors and Phnom Penh have kept waging the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia.

Khmer Rouge 'Poised To Attack' Banteay Srei

BK0910073090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] The Khmer Rouge forces equipped with tanks are preparing an attack to retake Siem Reap Province's central area, which is Cambodia's most important cultural and historic region.

Following their major successes in rural areas last year, the Khmer Rouge troops are moving with the aim of seizing important cities and key economic regions, Western military analysts say. The Khmer Rouge forces, which recently captured the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime's artillery base at Sre Noi, are now reportedly poised to attack Banteay Srei District, the Phnom Penh regime's last position defending the Siem Reap provincial town and the nearby Angkor Wat temples.

Indonesia

Murdiono Discusses Presidential Visit to PRC

BK0710052990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0508 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 7 (AFP)—President Suharto is to visit China next month, the leading KOMPAS daily reported Sunday. He would be the first Indonesian head of state to visit China in 29 years. The trip will be sandwiched between visits to Japan for Emperor Akihito's coronation and to Vietnam, KOMPAS said.

State Secretary Murdiono, who was in Beijing last week for the Asian Games, was received by Chinese Premier Li Peng at a dinner on Friday during which they discussed the planned trip by Mr. Suharto, the daily added. Mr. Murdiono did not give any specific dates for the visit but said that an advance team would leave for Beijing on November 8 to discuss and finalise the itinerary, to include the Chinese capital and several other cities.

Officials were unavailable Sunday to comment on the report.

Mr. Suharto's visit would be in response to Mr. Li's trip to Indonesia in August, during which Sino-Indonesian relations were normalized. Bilateral ties were frozen in 1967 after Indonesia accused China of complicity in a failed communist coup attempt two years earlier, a charge which Beijing has always denied. President Sukarno was the last Indonesian head of state to visit China in 1961. He was replaced by Mr. Suharto in 1967.

KOMPAS also quoted Mr. Murdiono as saying that Indonesia planned to name its ambassador to China before Mr. Suharto's visit. He declined to name the envoy but said he would be a career diplomat and would not come from the Indonesian Armed Forces.

China had also to name its ambassador to Indonesia. The Chinese Embassy opened here last week with diplomats working temporarily from two rooms at the Borobudur Intercontinental Hotel.

Alatas Favors Bypassing Issue of SNC Head

BK0510120790 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1026 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Oct 05 (OANA/ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas stated here Thursday that a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian conflict should be sought without waiting for a solution of the problem concerning the chairmanship of the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC).

Speaking to Indonesian reporters prior to his departure to Jaspers, Canada, the minister explained that the measure had been agreed upon by the co-chairmen of the Paris Informal Meeting on Cambodia (PIMC). Alatas hoped for an early settlement of the differences amonmg parties related to the SNC to enable the council to appoint its [passage indistinct] that the SNC is existing as an authority.

In the meantime, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), forwarded a bill to the UN General Assembly to be approved as a resolution. Unlike the previous resolutions, the bill does not propose Sihanouk to lead Cambodia. The problem, Alatas explained, was that the SNC had been formed and that it would name somebody to play the role. He believed that too much meddling in internal affairs would be unfavourable, but admitted the SNC chairmanship problem could not be considered simple.

Discussions on the Cambodian conflict in the UN General Assembly were scheduled to take place on October 12. A meeting of senior officials linked to the Paris conference is scheduled to be held in late October, a meeting of the coordinating committee will be held in early November while the ministerial meeting will be organized n the French capital in early December.

The UN Security Council has issued a resolution welcoming the agreement toward a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian conflict achieved in Jakarta last month.

Energy Minister Clarifies Stand on Gulf Crisis

BK0810132990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1245 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 8 (AFP)—Indonesia has firmly condemned Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait and fully abided by the United Nations' trade embargo against Baghdad, mines and energy minister, Ginanjar Kartasasmita, said Monday. "There have been suggestions that Indonesia's position on Iraq was ambivalent. This is not true," Mr. Ginanjar told reporters. Indonesia was one of the first to condemn Iraq through its chief delegate at the Organisation of Islamic Conference in Cairo the day after the August 2 invasion, he said.

Several members of parliament have blamed Indonesia's perceived ambivalence for the lack of Arab support in Indonesia's bid to host the 1998 Asian games. The decision, taken through a vote during the Asian games in Beijing last week, went to Thailand.

Indonesia, the world's largest Moslem nation, had turned town a Saudi Arabian request to join a U.S. multinational force to defend the Gulf Kingdom against a possible Iraqi attack, saying it would only join a U.N. peacekeeping force. Indonesia was also the first member of OPEC to announce it would join the U.N. call for a trade embargo against Iraq, Mr. Ginanjar said.

The minister said he had also assurred the Kuwaiti government-in-exile that its investment in Indonesia would be safeguarded and would not fall into Iraqi hands. Kuwait had equities in three production sharing contracts for oil exploration and production in Indonesia, one of which was slated to start production later this year, Mr. Ginanjar said.

Notes OPEC Role

BK0810153290 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita has reiterated that Indonesia's stand on the Gulf crisis is not ambivalent because the Indonesian Government has categorically condemned the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait from the very beginning. Speaking at a news conference on energy in Jakarta today, Minister Ginanjar dismissed as untrue suggestions the government's stand on the Gulf crisis was ambivalent; the Iraqi invasion of the sovereign state was unjustifiable. Accordingly, Kuwaiti investments in Indonesia, including those in oil exploration, will be safeguarded for the legitimate Kuwaiti Government, which the United Nations recognizes.

Answering press questions, Minister Ginanjar, who is concurrently OPEC vice president, said OPEC cannot directly help settle the Gulf crisis because OPEC is not a political organization.

Laos

Phoun Sipaseut Greets Shevardnadze on Ties

BK0510140190 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Vientiane, Oct 5 (KPL)—Phoun Sipaseut, foreign minister of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] has sent on the occasion of the 30th establishing anniversary of the Lao-Soviet diplomatic relations as message of congratulations to Eduard Shevardnadze, foreign minister of the USSR.

The Lao foreign minister describes the 30-year history of the developed relations and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union, especially after the establishment of the Lao PDR, a strategic and long-term policy. He hopes that in the restructuring age the two countries will exploit all latent potential in each country to step up their economic, trade, technical, and scientific cooperation with high efficiency and mutual benefit.

On the same occasion, Phoun Sipaseut also received a message of congratulations from his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze, indicating that the perestroyka in the Soviet Union and the new thinking introduced in Laos have opened up a large possibility for the developed bilateral relations and cooperation involving their activities at the international scene.

With the joint efforts, the Soviet foreign minister said, the two countries will be able to establish an effective and balanced economic cooperation with mutual interest and cooperation in particular activity to improve the situation in Southeast Asia as well as in the Asia-Pacific region.

Progress of U.S.-Financed Project Reported

BK0610043190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The construction of a new 60-km road in the Meuang Son development area in Viangthong District, Houa Phan Province, built since late last year under the joint Lao-U.S. comprehensive rural development project by the Irrigation Construction Company No. 1, the Highway Construction Company of Houa Phan Province, and the Highway No. 6 Construction Company, was partly completed with more than a stretch of 30 km of the road cleared by 30 September. The road will link Meuang Son and Hiam Districts in the province.

Comrade Kham Ongthibounma, head of the project, said the building of the road to the Meuang Son development area was one of the four main goals of the comprehensive rural development project. A road must be first constructed into the area. After that, irrigation facilities and hydroelectric dams will be built in two locations, and land will be allocated to the multiethnic people in the area for fixed crop cultivation to replace poppy plants.

The joint Lao-U.S. comprehensive rural development project, which is financed with grants of U.S.$8.7 million given by the U.S. Government, is aimed at carrying out development programs in Meuang Son and Houa Meuang Districts. A total of U.S.$700,000 has already been given to Laos by the U.S. Government for carrying out the project. The rest of the funds will be given to Laos in the near future as pledged by the U.S. Government.

Government Allows Private Schools To Operate

BK0610104790 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Vientiane, Oct 6 (KPL)—The government of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] has recently issued a decree authorizing the establishment of private schools at kindergarten, primary, and secondary levels and of vocational schools at different levels, except the teacher training schools.

This was designed to achieve the educational strategy from the period up to the year 2000, which corresponds to the socioeconomic restructuring processes in the country, thus bettering the national education development. The criterion applied to those intending to operate the schools involve being Lao nationals, good citizens, collective bodies, associations and foreign residents with permanant settlements and fair professions in Laos.

The schools to be opened must be operated according to the adopted principles: They have to abide by the state educational policies, the national laws, the state regulations and procedures, and to (?undertake) a systematic teaching, following strictly the programmes and curricula adopted or authorized by the Ministry of Education.

Philippines

Details, Aftermath of Mutiny Reported

Mutiny 'Ended'; Noble Surrenders

OW0510231390 Tokyo KYODO in English 2300 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Manila, Oct. 6 KYODO—A three-day military mutiny in southern Philippines ended before dawn on Saturday with the surrender of a rebel Army colonel and an aide to a government negotiator.

Armed Forces Chief Gen. Renato de Villa said in a radio interview that renegade Col. Alexander Noble gave himself up to Sen. Aquilino Pimentel in Cagayan de Oro, a city some 780 kilometers south of Manila.

Noble, the former deputy chief of the presidential security force, led rebel soldiers in seizing two major camps in two cities in a failed bid to form a separate government in Mindanao, the country's second-largest island.

"We warn Noble's followers not to fight any longer. This small rebellion is finished. We urged them to surrender, otherwise we will hunt them down," he said over the government-run people's radio.

De Villa said that Noble and fugitive Army Lt. Col. Victor Erfe surrendered to Pimentel, who offered to negotiate a peaceful end to the mutiny at about 3 A.M. Saturday.

The armed forces chief urged Noble's civilian supporters led by former Cagayan de Oro mayor, Reuben Canoy, who also had been detained for his alleged involvement in last December's coup, to turn themselves in to authorities.

De Villa said about 40 mutineers were captured by government troops, who had wrested control of the 402nd Army Brigade Headquarters and adjacent airport in Butuan City, 780 kilometers south of Manila.

Noble's surrender came several hours after President Corazon Aquino vowed to crush the mutiny which had appeared to be the prelude to another attempt by rebel soldiers to oust her government. "We will crush these pretenders as we did before. For our people will never support their naked attempt to grab power ... I am confident that our people will unite against this disloyal attempt to divide our nation," she said.

Noble fled to the jungle in Mindanao following the failed December coup and recruited tribesmen and militiamen in the fight against the central government.

Except for a soldier who was slightly wounded in a bombing run by government war planes Friday on the army brigade camp, there were no other casualties in the latest military mutiny. A Sikorsky helicopter, a World War II T-28, attack aircraft and several military vehicles were destroyed in the 29-hour rebellion.

Further on Noble's Surrender

OW0510235890 Tokyo KYODO in English 2339 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Manila, Oct. 6 KYODO—A three-day military mutiny in southern Philippines ended before dawn on Saturday with the surrender of a rebel Army colonel who led a failed bid to establish a breakaway republic on the the country's second-largest island.

Armed Forces Chief Gen. Renato de Villa said in a radio interview that renegade Col. Alexander Noble tried to flee but decided instead to give himself up to Sen. Aquilino Pimentel in Cagayan de Oro, a city about 780 kilometers south of Manila.

Noble, the former deputy chief of the presidential security force, declared independence for Mindanao Island after seizing two major camps in Butuan and Cagayan de Oro in attacks beginning late Wednesday. [passage omitted]

President Corazon Aquino expressed happiness over the peaceful resolution of the latest attempt by renegade officers against her government, a palace spokeswoman said. She did not elaborate. [passage omitted]

Pimentel said it took many hours of discussions between Noble and government emissaries before the rebel leader agreed to be "placed under his custody." [passage omitted]

Erfe Requests Enrile, Camiling

HK0610012190 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 6 Oct 90

[By Wen Moralina]

[Text] At 0400 this morning, Senator Aquilino Pimentel informed the president about the surrender of rebel military officers, Colonel Alexander Noble and Victor Erfe. President Aquino then told General de Villa to advise Senator Pimentel on the arrangement for the surrender.

Erfe requested General Enrile and Colonel Camiling to take charge of their surrender. The two rebel officers will be brought to Manila.

Meanwhile, President Aquino stressed that there were no conditions given in relation to the surrender by the two rebel officers, Noble and Erfe.

Rebels Arrested in Iligan City

HK0610025790 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0200 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Armed Forces official spokesman Colonel Juanito Rimando said that 12 rebel soldiers were arrested this morning in Iligan City during a mopping up operation:

[Begin Rimando recording] There are 12 rebel soldiers captured in Iligan City at about 0605 this morning. Seized from them were a mortar—an 81 mm mortar—three M-203 rifle grenade launchers and eight M-16 armalite rifles. There are now a total of 150 accounted for. [sentence as heard] Twenty-three of them are still arranging for their surrender. This is in Iligan City. [end recording]

155 Rebels Reported 'in Custody'

OW0610082490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0802 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Manila, Oct. 6 KYODO—The latest attempt to oust Philippine President Corazon Aquino is over, the Armed Forces chief of staff said Saturday. Gen. Renato de Villa said renegade Col. Alexander Noble, leader of the mutiny on Mindanao Island, has surrendered, and 155 rebel soldiers are in custody.

In a news conference at Armed Forces Headquarters, De Villa identified nine military officers linked to the takeover of the 402nd Army Brigade Headquarters in Butuan, 780 kilometers south of the capital, and Camp Evangelista in nearby Cagayan de Oro. [passage omitted]

De Villa said Noble and his aide Lt. Col. Victor Erfe will be flown to Manila together with Senator Aquilino Pimentel, a former mayor of Cagayan de Oro, to whom the two rebel officers surrendered at around 3 A.M. Saturday.

He said a mopping-up operation to arrest rebel soldiers is going on and urged rebels still at large to surrender.

"There are no conditions attached to the surrender of the two rebel officers," according to a statement from Malacanang Presidential Palace.

Noble, who took part last December in the sixth and most serious attempt to oust Aquino, fled to Mindanao, the nation's second largest island, after the failure of that bloody coup attempt.

Aquino Commends Officials

HK0610084790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Statement by President Corazon C. Aquino; place not given—in English live or recorded]

[Text] I commend General Dizon, SouthCom [Southern Command] commander, Brigadier General Hermogenes Peralta, Brigadier General Antonio Nane, and Captain Ben Magalong of the Agusan Norte Constabulary command, which is credited with recapturing the headquarters of the 402d ID [Infantry Division] in Bangkati, Butuan.

I also commend the entire Philippine Air Force for remaining true and performing very creditably in suppressing the mini-rebellion of Noble and Canoy. All of the pilots of the aircrafts captured by the rebels refused to join Noble and remained loyal to the government and the chain of command.

I also commend the Marines under Colonel Guillermo Ruiz who helped in resolving the problem in Cagayan de Oro and in the capture of Noble's rebels; the Regional Special Action Force of the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] of Regional Command 8 in Tacloban for their participation in the operations in Cagayan de Oro.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Senator Nene Pimentel of Cagayan de Oro City along with other senators, congressmen, and local political leaders who made possible this peaceful solution. I also thank Secretary Luis Santos who figured prominently on the arrest of Canoy. Let me be precise once again by stating that the Constitution will be upheld with force if maybe [as heard] as the government has done. Let me reiterate that in the final analysis it is really the people and their steadfast loyalty to our Constitution that underly the shining victory and triumph of freedom.

Military Investigates Canoy

HK0610041590 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0345 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Interview with Major Milo Esguerra, the regional press information officer of Camp Alagar, Regional Command 10 by unidentified reporter—recorded; italicized portions in English]

[Text] [Esguerra] *For the moment, I would like to inform the public that ex-Assemblyman Reuben Canoy is already here in the headquarters, ReCom [Regional Command] 10 for investigations. As a matter of fact, he is now being investigated by Regional Judge Advocate Lieutenant Colonel Abella. The tactical interrogation is still going on. For the moment, they are now in the office of regional commander Brigadier General Hermogenes Peralta, regional commander, ReCom 10.*

[Reporter] Sir, what time was Canoy captured?

[Esguerra] *He was brought here at about 1000 this morning.* And he is still here.

[Reporter] How true is the report that Counsellor Jaraulla is also here for investigation?

[Esguerra] *Well, for the moment, I have not seen personally Councillor Jaraulla. But there are so many civilian lawyers who are there now, whose identities I will not divulge, because as a lawyer it is their right to counsel.*

Aquino Urges Anticoup Bills

OW0610100690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0946 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Manila, Oct. 6 KYODO—Philippine President Corazon Aquino said Saturday the leader of the seventh bid to oust her from power surrendered since "he was not willing to die" and called on Congress to speedily pass pending bills imposing harsher punishment on coup plotters and rebels.

At Philippine military headquarters, Armed Forces Chief Gen. Renato de Villa said Col. Alexander Noble and his aide Col. Victor Efre surrendered to Sen. Aquilino Pimentel at around 3 A.M. Saturday. He said 155 rebel soldiers are now in custody.

Aquino said in a speech that Noble has given up "after being cornered ... [ellipses as received] There was no way out unless he was willing to die." "Obviously, he was not willing to die."

On Thursday, Noble led about 200 troopers in taking over the 402nd Army Brigade headquarters in Bancasi in Butuan City, about 780 kilometers south of the capital. They eventually moved to nearby Cagayan de Oro City, occupying the 4th Infanty Battalion camp.

The president said Noble "miscalculated in expecting that corollary supportive action from fellow renegades and mercenaries would follow."

De Villa, in a news conference, said the military rebels have "intentions and plans" for the central Philippine region of Visayas which did not materialize. "It is always doomed to fail because the Philippine people will not support such action."

Aquino requested that Congress tackle immediately a package of three Senate and House bills designed "to strengthen the safeguards of our democracy."

The president expressed her gratitude to the international community, notably Japan, the United States, and the 12 members of the European Community (EC), for the expression of support to her government.

Aquino said she has ordered De Villa to review the entire military hierarchy in Mindanao Island, where Butuan and Cagayan de Oro are situated, to improve the command and control of the units in the island.

She said a special investigating team will fly to the southern Philippines to probe Reuben Canoy, a civilian leader who joined Noble in declaring that Mindanao is seceding from the Philippines, and his followers. "Let me be precise once again by stating that the Constitution will be upheld, with force if need be, as the government has done," she said.

Pimentel, a supporter of Aquino and a former mayor of Cagayan de Oro City, brought to Manila the two rebel leaders who were whisked to the military headquarters for interrogation. They arrived in Manila at around 3:45 P.M.

During the news conference, De Villa identified nine military officers who were linked to the takeover of the 402nd Army Brigade headquarters in Butuan City and the nearby Camp Evangelista in Cagayan de Oro City.

De Villa said the mutiny led by Noble, a former deputy chief of Aquino's elite presidential security force, was a part of a bigger plan by the rightwing Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) and the Young Officers Union (YOU).

"Noble was promised a lot of support and assistance and was perhaps made to do this not on his own but in coordination with a bigger plan of the RAM-YOU," De Villa told journalists. "Many of his (Noble's) friends and those who promised him support abandoned him," he said.

In the same news conference, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said there will be a general investigation covering military and civilian participants in the three-day mutiny. He said Canoy has been arrested and is now in Cagayan de Oro.

De Villa also announced that Brig. Gen. Miguel Sol, commander of the 4th Infantry Division in Cagayan de Oro, and Lt. Col. Hercules Galon, commander of the 402nd Army Brigade in Butuan, will face military investigation. He said Sol may possibly be court-martialed for abandoning his post. He said Sol told him he left his post because he did not want to be captured by Noble's men.

De Villa said a mopping-up operation to arrest all troopers who took part in the mutiny is going on and urged the rebel forces to surrender to public officials and church leaders.

Ramos, De Villa on Uprising

HK0610081390 Quezon City DWDD Defense Department Radio in Tagalog 0350 GMT 6 Oct 90

[News conference by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos at the Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissioned Officers' Club, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City—live; in English; italicized portions in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] [Ramos] Good morning to everyone from the Defense Press Corps and all other press corps that are here this morning.

We are here to announce to you and to the listening public a joint report of the Department of National Defense and the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] regarding the situation in northern Mindanao, principally in the Cagayan de Oro, Misamis Oriental areas and the Butuan City and Agusan del Norte areas.

We have already made a verbal report to the president about the situation and the follow up operations and actions being taken, and therefore we wish to inform the public of these developments.

We have decided, with General de Villa, that we would divide the work today so that he will take charge of all the military and tactical information that you need. And for my part, I shall deal with the civilian aspects of the failed coup attempt of Alexander Noble and Reuben Canoy.

[Moderator] Ding Sera.

[Sera] Sir, you went around Mindanao yesterday visiting Zamboanga, Cotabato and I think Davao. What is the general situation there in as far as peace is concerned, sir.

[Ramos] Well as of yesterday in the rest of Mindanao except for Region 10, night was going on in a very normal manner. The local government executives were functioning and in control of their respective jurisdictions. And the military and the police commanders were maintaining peace and order. They were also on the alert to take care of any outside threats, as well as to be prepared for missions outside their respective areas as may be ordered by the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

And one thing that we noted in Region 9, Zamboanga City and in Region 12, Cotabato City to include the autonomous region for Muslim Mindanao, headed by Governor Zacharias Candao with whom we met together with his entire legislative assembly of the region, and in Region 11 Davao City, was that our peace and order councils were functioning according to the crisis management manual that was promulgated for their guidance and implementation three months ago.

And so I see this as a very healthy development which has resulted in improved civilian-military cooperation during a crisis as we have just experienced. And so I hope that this practice will not only be maintained but also be enhanced for the future.

Anyway, I think that we are all very happy that the military threats caused by Noble and his companions, as well as the disruption of normal civilian livelihood, travel, commerce, and other functions have now been restored in all of Mindanao.

In Regions 9, 12, and 11, there was no significant disruptions of normalcy yesterday.

[Sera] Thank you very much, sir. Well some say, sir, that Colonel Noble has surrendered mainly through the efforts of the legislative officials here, the church and some executives in the area. General de Villa, sir, may we know the details of the surrender of Colonel Noble.

[De Villa] Yes. I talked to Senator Pimentel very early this morning and gathered the information which was also conveyed to me later by our own commanders on the ground that Alexander Noble and Colonel Erfe surrendered to him—meaning to Senator Pimentel—and his companion at 0300 this morning. And they are still together at this point but we have sent an aircraft to fetch Senator Pimentel, Noble, Erfe and our other public officials, so that they can come to Manila this afternoon.

The surrender was unconditional. Colonel Noble and Colonel Erfe stated this themselves and we have guaranteed them their safety and due process in the handling of their cases. The rest of Noble's companions are now being mopped up in the general area of Cagayan de Oro City and environs.

We have received reports from Brigadier General Peralta, the regional commander of PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Regional Command 10 based in Cagayan de Oro, that indeed some of the followers have already surrendered. Some had been intercepted and captured and the process is still going on.

Overall in the operations since last night when the headquarters of the 402d Infantry Brigade in Butuan City, which was earlier captured by Noble's forces, was recaptured up to this morning's report and this includes those rebels that have been either captured or surrendered to authorities, our military commanders in Iligan City. We have accounted for a total of 155 enlisted men already in custody and quite a number of firearms that include M-16's, assault rifles, machine guns, Garands, and other firearms.

We have also accounted for all of the armored vehicles that were initially used by the rebels of Colonel Noble. It includes V-150 command vehicles, Army infantry fighting vehicles and two APC's or armored personnel carriers.

The operation of cleaning up or mopping up the remnants of Noble's forces is still going on at the moment and we will periodically announce what has been accomplished thus far.

[Sera] Thank you, sir.

[Ramos] By the way, we have ordered the arrest of Mr. Reuben Canoy and indeed he has been arrested by elements of the Misamis Oriental PC-INP command and is now under the custody of General Hermogenes Peralta in Camp Alagar in Cagayan de Oro City. I have also requested that the Judge Advocate General of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, with the knowledge of General de Villa, work with the Department of Justice state prosecutors for the cancellation of the bail bond that he posted in Cebu last December to effect his temporary release because of his alleged participation in the Mactan uprising of December 1989. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Sir, will Mr. Canoy be brought to us [word indistinct].

[Ramos] Well, that will be up to the Department of Justice authorities because this will be a different kind of a procedure as compared to those from the military. Because under our articles of war, our articles of military justice, the chief of staff on his own or even a subordinate commander in the area can issue orders for the detention and the custody as well as other arrangements for military personnel. But Mr. Canoy is a civilian. It will be the Department of Justice, eventually, that will have custody over him and later on be charged.

[Moderator] Thank you very much, sir. The next question from Gloriette Abraham. [News conference interrupted for five minutes due to technical problem at radio station]

[Unidentified reporter] What we want to know now is since these people—these military officers—are under a certain Major Pedro Fernando, will you please tell us if you are going to investigate also Major Pedro Fernando?

[De Villa] Certainly, and that includes the commanding officers of the other units where some of the rebels came from. I am very glad that you have brought this up because if you recall, yesterday or last night, I had sounded a call over the radio that all rebel officers, soldiers, and members of CAFGU's [Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Units] who have joined may surrender through persons of their choice, especially public officials, bishops, and other heirarchy members of the church, and even private citizens, provided that they will be eventually turned over to our higher headquarters in the area, which is the headquarters of the 4th Division Camp Evangelista in so far as Army personnel are concerned, and the PC-INP headquarters in Camp Alagar, also in Cagayan de Oro City in so far as other persons are concerned. I said that I am glad you mentioned this because we really wanted to enlist the help of public officials especially mayors, councillors, governors into accounting for all of this.

Last night and very early this morning, many of the soldiers who went with Noble, upon learning that he has surrendered, changed to civilian clothes and went on individual escapes. We have to round up all of these people.

[Reporter] Sir, another question. We should like really to be briefed on the actual participation, since you said now that you are ordering an investigation on the participation of Brigadier General Miguel Sol.

[De Villa] Brigadier General Miguel Sol did not participate in the rebellion. He did not join Noble and Canoy. He did not support Noble and Canoy. He left or abandoned his command. And this is the reason why we are going to bring him before a general court martial.

[Reporter] When the renegade Colonel Noble was inside the camp in Camp Evangelista, General Sol was no longer there?

[De Villa] Before Noble could get into the building which he occupied, which was the headquarters of the 4th Infantry Division, General Sol had already left the area.

[Ramos] I think to clarify all of the questions like that, I think we should look at what was done by the government, particularly the Department of Justice, the Department of National Defense, the Armed Forces of the Phillippines, with regard to investigations that there will be a general investigation of those that participated directly, those that were reported to have provided support, as well as all others who somehow gave aid and comfort.

Now, there is a division of labor here, in that for the military personnel on active duty status as well as the Integrated National Police, if there are any, this comes under the jurisdiction of the military, this case the AFP and the INP in the case of police personnel. Now, the civilians will be dealt with according to our well-established procedures, which will first have to begin with an investigation and then later on, the filing of charges if that is warranted by the findings of the investigation.

But I think at this stage we cannot give you a firm or a conclusive statement or finding as to the guilt or lack of guilt or liability of anybody. But indeed, there will be a general investigation for those that participated as well as those that failed by their acts of omission to do their duty.

Now, we would like it very clear that the government is very firm in dealing with offenses of this nature. And that as shown by the results of the investigations of the December '89 coup attempt, there have been charges filed in both military courts and civilian courts. And that there is also a fact-finding commission created by the president and now validated by a republic act that has been looking at coup attempts dating back from December 1989 to the previous ones. So, that will be the pattern and the procedure that will be followed, I am confident, in this particular incident.

[Marquez] Good afternoon, sirs. I am Romeo Marquez of the German Press Agency. With the surrender of Colonel Noble, do you think armed resistance by the rightists has been substantially crippled or just temporarily stopped?

[De Villa] In so far as the forces of Noble and the RAM-SFP-YOU [Reform the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union] in Mindanao are concerned, I think the surrender of Noble has dealt them a very serious blow not only in terms of their armed capability but also in terms of their overall effort to recruit followers, leaders, members, sympathizers and mount an attempt at rebellion and a breakaway from the nation. The way we look at it, it seems that Noble was promised a lot of support and a lot of assistance and was perhaps made to do this action of haste, not only on his own but in coordination with the plans, the bigger plans of the RAM-SFP-YOU. But as it turns out—very unfortunately for Noble—as it turns out, we believe that at the moment of crisis, many of his friends and those who promised him support abandoned him. And so under the circumstances and I hope this will be a lesson to all our officers and men, especially the young whose future, whose career are being destroyed by this foolish activity of planning for and conducting pocket rebellion that any way would never succeed. I hope that this will make them realize that sometimes, perhaps, they are just serving the interest of some people and not really as what is being claimed. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Thank you, sir. Please identify yourself when you ask the question, sir.

[Whittaker] I am Phil Whittaker with CBS News. In Mindanao, they are calling this a separatist movement and you have been calling it a failed coup attempt. Do you have any hard facts that you can share with us that Noble was working in cooperation with rebels outside of Mindanao to expand this rebellion beyond Mindanao to actually try to force President Aquino out of office. Do you have hard facts on that?

[Ramos] Yes. There is enough evidence, documented even, that exists to prove that Noble and on the civilian side, Canoy, were together in promoting a so-called Federal Republic of Mindanao. That was even evidenct during the failed coup attempt of December 1989. But in this one, well, I will just show you one. This is a proclamation or a letter of the Federal Republic of Mindanao with its address at Camp Evangelista, Cagayan de Oro City, dated 4 October 1990. It is a letter to his excellency the ambassador, the Republic of Korea, and it was signed both by Noble for the military sector and Canoy for the civilian sector. And in essence what this letter said, and we will give copies to the defense press corps. Joe Comadocia, it says that: We are asking you, Mr. Ambassador, and your government, to recognize our government of the Federal Republic of Mindanao, which we have declared to consist of the sovereign people of Mindanao, Camiguin, Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, and Palawan. Even Palawan is included in their federal republic. And they ask that, aside from the recognition by foreign governments, that those governments receive the consular and the diplomatic representatives coming out of this so-called Federal Republic of Mindanao in due time. Now this is just one of many documents that have come our way as a result of this incident that started October 4, but there are many others as captured or elicited by intelligence. We will provide a copy of this to...to you for reproduction if you like.

[Whittaker] Just a follow up if I may. You believe that this incident in Mindanao, this uprising in Mindanao was supposed to trigger a widespread [uprising] throughout the country. Is that your belief?

[Ramos] No. As I mentioned, I had to go to the rest of Mindanao, meaning the three other regions, Regions 9, 12, 11, yesterday on instructions of the president precisely to check on how popular is this Noble-Canoy uprising or coup attempt. [passage omitted]

It was also very obvious that the other threat groups in the area, the MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] and the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] were not moving. They were just waiting and seeing or maybe they were turned off by the countermeasures being taken by the military in Mindanao to prevent them coming into the picture or to prevent Noble's group from expanding beyond the perimeters where they were already isolated. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Secretary Ramos, Secretary de Villa [title as heard] sir, this press conference is being carried live by several radio stations and several radio station throughout the country are hooking up to this press conference, specially DWDD Defense Department Radio, DZXL, Radyo Bisig Ng Bayan, do you want to air some messages to other rebels who are still at large and have not turned themselves into the custody of the military and to the people of Mindanao, sir.

[Ramos] Certainly. I think this is a welcome opportunity for us to once more air a message to any of our soldiers, policemen, CAFGU's, and the officers who may still be entertaining some thoughts of the success of Noble and other coup leaders in the past, using military course as a means to attain their objective. That is gone now. How many times have you failed already. Seven times already. Maybe more than that. I think it is very clear that our poeple reject the idea of a military takeover or a takeover supported by the military. And so, while you still have the chance, I think it is best that you turn yourselves in, return to military control. Well, you may have to face the music, but that is your only chance to justify your actions, defend yourselves, and get some kind of due process. But if you continue to hide, become a fugitive, you will just be hunted down. And I do not think that this is what you would want for yourself and for your family because your family will become the unwilling victims of your illegal actions. *So if possible, surrender now. You can report to the closest military headqarters or to our mayors, governors, or parish priests,* *or anybody in authority,* or even to members of media if you want. So that you will not be compounding your offense which started by joining this adventure or misadventure of Noble's.

May I just add something aside from that, I think we should also convey our commendations, our highest commendations to our loyal constitutional soldiers and policemen and officials who did their jobs during this crisis and who continue to do their jobs during this postoperation phase because they represent the great majority of our Armed Forces and in general I can say, as their civilian supervisor, that they did the job well.

[Moderator] General de Villa, sir. Do you want to air a message, sir? [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Thank you, sir. *But before we proceed on more issues about Mindanao, many of our countrymen, particularly in Metro Manila, are asking what the situation in Manila is. Can we ask General Biazon, sir, what the situation is in Manila?*

[Biazon] *Maybe we can see that the attempt they launched in Mindanao is no longer accepted as it had been in the past.* That is why I think the series of failures that they suffered in Metro Manila, they shifted their tactics to the so-called [passage indistinct]

[Moderator] Thank you, sir. We will entertain three more questions.

[Ramos] Before we go on with that, I think there is also a need to look at our so-called post operations phase. Now, in the case of the Northern Mindanao incident, I think it is opportune for us in the Defense Department and in the AFP to reiterate our previous recommendations for the enactment of three very important fields. The first one is a proposed bill submitted by the Defense Department and which was certified by the president to both houses of Congress for immediate enactment, and this is entitled: An Act Increasing the Penalties for Crimes Against Public Order amending for the purpose several articles of the revised penal code.

Now what are these crimes against public order. Well, simply stated, these are: The crimes of rebellion, inciting to rebellion, sedition and inciting to sedition and proposal to commit rebellion or insurrection, disloyalty of public officers or employees, conspiracy to commit sedition, and giving aid and comfort to rebels. These are existing laws that must be amended as soon as possible so that the new definitions and the greater penalties for these offenses will themselves provide an effective and deterrent force against a repetition of the same offenses.

Now, we recommended this in December 1989 as the aftermath of the failed coup attempt, and we are hoping that this time the Congress will provide support to the law enforcement community and to the military so that they will have some concrete legal weapons with which to fight rebellion, insurgency, and similar offenses.

The second proposed bill is the one sponsored by Senate President Salonga. This is the so-called anticoup bill. It has already passed the House. It has already been calendared for priority consideration. I mean it has passed the Senate and has been calendared for priority consideration in the House but perhaps this can be, if we may respectfully request, be among the first subjects to be taken up when Congress resumes its session next week.

The third proposed bill is one pertaining to the articles of war, which we have recommended to be devised and renamed the articles of military justice because this will improve the system of dealing with military offenders for crimes that are not strictly military but it also affects public order and the security and stability of the country.

So, we hope that the Cagayan de Oro and Butuan City incidents will again become a lesson for all of us, so that these needed laws can be put in place. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] We will now have the last three questions, please.

[Salazar] I am Luningning Salazar from PBS German television. I have three questions, actually.

[Ramos] Congratulations on your unification.

[Salazar] My unification? I am Filipino. Anyway, I would like to ask at this point in time, has the link of Colonel Noble with his counterparts in the Visayas and Metro Manila weakened, or have you established whether this link is still strong. And my second question is sort of a follow-up. Do you foresee any attempt, similar attempt, in the Visayan region within the immediate future, and then are you going to present Colonel Noble to us when he arrives with Senator Pimentel.

[De Villa] To the first question of what is the effect of Noble's surrender in the movement of the military rebels in the underground, certainly the surrender of Noble and the suppression of the pocket rebellion in northern Mindanao will greatly weaken this particular movement which has been continuously bedeviling us here in the Philippines. And I am referring to the movement of the RAM and now the RAM-SFP-YOU, to continuously plan to destabilize or overthrow the government. Perhaps, this time, although, we can never really be sure, they will learn their lesson that without the support of the people, such foolishness cannot hope to succeed. It is always doomed to fail because the Philippine people do not support such action as a method of changing our leadership in this country.

In regard to the Visayas, we know that they have intentions and plans but I do not think that, again, this will materialize because of the same reason, and perhaps also because of the steadfast support of all our forces and our commanders to constitutional democracy, the duly constituted government and the armed forces chain of command from the president down to the last unit commander. This chain of command is now becoming stronger and stronger every day and it will take more than the RAM or their leaders or anybody belonging to such groups to break the Armed Fores of the Philippines. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] The next question will come from DZMM.

[Daluz] *I am Cris Daluz of the Free Citizen. My question is for the secretary of national defense and the armed forces chief, Secretary Ramos and General de Villa. Aside from the incidents in Cagayan de Oro after the arrest of Colonel Noble, did your offices receive an unusual report from Cagayan de Oro in relation to this incident? That is my first question.*

My second question: Has the armed forces received any report on the details of the capture of Reuben Canoy?

The third is: Will the armed forces maintain the red alert status nationwide?

[Ramos] We have stated those reports earlier at the beginning of the press conference and I think General De Villa will give the details on the arrest of the two groups because that which concerns Noble and Erfe is a separate matter and the action on Reuben Canoy is also separate. [passage omitted]

[De Villa] On your third question regarding the red alert, leave that to us. [laughter]

[Daluz] Thank you general.

[Passage omitted]

[Reporter] [words indistinct] from NEW YORK TIMES. You have repressed a rebellion this time, whether or not you call it a rebellion or a attempted coup. Do you not agree that it is a sign of widespread discontent and the present row within your ranks. You mentioned you have learned some lessons and there has been six—according to you, seven—coup attempts so far. What specific lessons have you learned and also you mentioned this rebel and a couple of the other antiterrorist tactics that you are taking. Those would be considered as [word indistinct] approach. What about the current approach? What about examining your own management structures and what measures have you taken to address the longer-term problems of management in the military.

[Ramos] There has been a continuing study by the government, by the Defense Department and the Armed Forces itself, of the process of all of this military uprisings, which have been expanded now in the later versions into not just military but also political takeovers. And I think you are also aware that there is a fact- finding commission initially appointed by the president but given a legislative mandate by Congress called the Davide Commission which has already submitted its final report to the president in so far as the December '89 coup attempt was concerned. The Davide Commission also had expanded its studies into the previous coup attempts and many of us who are here, all of us who are at this table in government have appeared before that commission to respond to their questions, and to give our side of any particular incident that was being inquired into and to submit our own recommendations for both short-term, long-term and longer range measures that should be taken, as well as what they would call in-house or organic corrections that must be made. That has all been done.

In addition to all of that, there had been many many areas of reforms that have already been undertaken and are now being implemented or which have been implemented in various areas; in administration, in organization, in intelligence, in operations, in logistics, in the programming of resources, in the inspection and auditing of performance, and so many other areas. So, I do not think it is quite fair from your question that because there are continuous attempts that there have been no reforms that have been instituted. I would like to respectfully correct that impression. I think what we should look at is the positive side of this. [passage omitted]

Bobby, there is a JOLAC—Joint Legal Action Committee—organized by the Department of Justice and the Department of National Defense that looks into incidents of this nature, which are crimes against public order. The senior DND representative is General Casaclang, the Judge Advocate General; and on the part of the Department of Justice, the senior representative is the chief state prosecutor itself, Attorney Tuquero, oh no, he is now undersecretary, Attorney De Leon.

So, that group has been working since this thing exploded yesteday to look at the civilian side.

[De Villa] *Thank you very much Joe, and to all the guests from the media. We hope we answered your questions well. And through you, we thank the whole nation for this opportunity to explain several issues on what happened in northern Mindanao.*

[Ramos] *I am likewise thankful to all of you and the support you always accord our soldiers, especially the broadcast media because it has a broad coverage and the effect is instantaneous, in that it helps in tactical operations. But for all, including the print media, we would like to thank you for your support, and hopefully, our messages will be brought to the attention of our people. Thank you.*

Honasan Speaks on Rebellion Plan

BK0710114190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1125 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Manila, Oct 7 (AFP)—Right-wing rebel leader Gregorio Honasan Sunday claimed the mini-rebellion launched by his allies in the southern Philippines was part of a larger plan to topple President Corazon Aquino.

"Phase one of the constitutional rescue or bloodless coup is over. Phase two is in place," Mr. Honasan said in a statement delivered to news agencies here, one day after the government crushed the three-day rebellion on Mindanao Island.

Mr. Honasan, a cashiered Army colonel, led two coup attempts against President Corazon Aquino in August 1987 and December 1989 when about 119 people were killed and 500 more injured.

"We see dawning of victory soon," Mr. Honasan said, without elaborating.

Further on Honasan's Letter

OW0710125190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1230 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Manila, Oct. 7 KYODO—Rightwing rebels announced Sunday a shift in strategy to overthrow President Corazon Aquino's government, claiming that the recently crushed three-day bloodless rebellion in southern Philippines was "Phase 1" of their plan.

"Phase 1 of the bloodless constitutional rescue has further weakened the reign of greed, lust and terror and has shown that a bloodless constitutional rescue is feasible," an open letter signed by Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) leader cashiered Col. [Colonel] Gregorio Honasan said.

"Phase 1 of the constitutional rescue or bloodless coup is over. Phase 2 is now in place."

The charismatic Army officer, said to have been behind at least six failed coups, added that the seventh attempt led by former presidential security command officer, Col. Alexander Noble, "exposed the loss of moral leadership and moral ascendancy" by Aquino and Chief of Staff Gen. [General] Renato de Villa.

Noble, who proclaimed Mindanao, the country's largest island, an independent federal republic, was able to take over a military camp and a brigade headquarters with 150 men without a shot in the early dawn of October 4.

As a result of this easy conquest, the military authorities have started formal investigation against infantry division commander Brig. Gen [Brigadier General] Miguel Sol and brigade commander Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Hercules Galon, who were responsible for the camp and brigade headquarters.

The government military action against Noble consisted mostly of air strikes to destroy helicopters he had under his control. Few foot soldiers were engaged in actual combat.

Aquino and De Villa "were awakened from their delusions," Honasan claimed, and "ordered the military commanders to crush the rebellion to no avail. Our movement for better Philippines will persist in steadily wearing down the 'curse of the nation,' like the irrational bull in the arena, before we deliver the coup de grace," Honasan said.

Bomb Explodes at Armed Forces Headquarters

OW0610141390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1342 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Manila, Oct. 6 KYODO—A bomb exploded Saturday inside the Armed Forces Headquarters, causing minimal property damage and injuring one person, hours after the leader of the seventh attempt to oust President Corazon Aquino surrendered, Philippine Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said.

Ramos told radio station DZXL that the explosion occurred in the parking lot of the National Defense Department inside Armed Forces Headquarters, damaging two parked jeepneys and slightly injuring one civilian employee of the department. "They are doing this to sow terror and to send a political message, perhaps to offset their defeat in the Cagayan de Oro incident," Ramos said.

The bomb reportedly went off at around 8:10 P.M.

Mutiny leader renegade Col. Alexander Noble and his aide Col. Victor Erfe surrendered in Cagayan de Oro, Mindanao, early Saturday. "Everything is back to normal and troops are still on alert," Ramos said.

Armed Forces chief Gen. Renato de Villa said a witness told investigators that he saw a plastic bag burning under one of the damaged jeepneys before the explosion. De Villa said investigators are still trying to determine the type of bomb used.

Bomb Explodes Near Finance Department Building

HK0710031490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0305 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Manila, Oct 7 (AFP)—A homemade bomb exploded Sunday near the Philippine Finance Department building here, causing slight damage and no injuries, police said.

The bomb totally destroyed a concrete flower pot located beside the Finance Department building, and shattered nearby windows, the police said. No one was injured in the explosion, they added.

More than 40 minor explosions have rocked the capital in the past three months. The military said rightwing rebels, who had launched six coup attempts against President Corazon Aquino, were responsible for most of the attacks.

NPA Rebels Raid Military Detachments in Samar

HK0910093390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 October 90

[Report by Ruben Asudilla of DYSM from Catarman, Samar—live or recorded]

[Text] Two military detachments were raided by New People's Army [NPA] rebels early this morning at San Narciso, Northern Samar. Prior to this, DZRH news center had received a report saying there were shots heard in the said province. This station verified this report with high-ranking military officials. A Philippine National Oil Company [PNOC] oil tanker was headed for the town of San Narciso but was unable to dock because of the loud shots exchanged between the communist rebels and government troops.

The NPA assault on the two Philippine Army detachments at 0400 early this morning was confirmed this morning by General Emiliano Templo, chief of the AFP's [Armed Forces of the Philippines] civil military operations, in an interview with this reporter. Here is part of General Templo's pronouncement and explanation.

[Begin Templo recording in English] [Templo] As of about 0430 this morning, two groups of CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] elements raided two Philippine Army detachments in Catarman. The V-150 sent by headquarters to reinforce the beleaguered detachments was also ambushed on the way. That [sound] was what was heard by those on the tanker. Now, as of now the firing and fighting is still going on and there are casualties on both sides, but on our side, I understand that there are, according to the initial report, those on the V-150, about two government forces were wounded, and on the part of the detachment, one CAFGU [Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit] was already wounded. The fight is still going on and, therefore, I would like to recommend to the PNOC to avoid landing in the area while the fighting is going on. [end recording]

Meanwhile, here is an update from Ruben Asudilla from DYSM Catarman Samar.

[Begin recording] [Asudilla] Here is the updated report on the NPA rebels' four separate but almost simultaneous raids. Ten government soldiers, seven from the Army and three from the PC [Philippine Constabulary], four civilians, and seven NPA rebels died when the NPA rebels conducted four separate but simultaneous raids here in the province of Northern Samar. The raids were made on the Army detachments at Barangay Balanit, San Isidro town, the detachment at Ferry Terminal at Barangay Salvacion, also in the town of San Isidro, the home of provincial board member and ABC [Association of Barangay Captains] President Glicerio Mondigo at Barangay Alegria, San Isidro Town and the Army CAFGU detachment at Barangay Libo-o, Catarman. Ten Philippine Army and PC personnel are confirmed dead and have been taken by a helicopter to Catarman, capital of Northern Samar, this morning.

Meanwhile board member Mondigo and his bodyguard, both of whom were injured, were also brought by the helicopter after reinforcements from the 801st Army Brigade, headed by Brigadier General Manuel Lanuza, arrived. While this report was being written, we have been unable to get additional details from the Army's 801st headquarters or PC provincial command. The number of fatalities and casualties could still go up in relation to the NPA rebels' four separate attacks on army detachments in Northern Samar.

There are also still unconfirmed reports of injured civilians due to the raids at Barangay Balanit and Barangay Salvacion in San Isidro Town. In relation to to this, this morning, Brigadier General Lanuza immediately sent a reaction force to the said places and a helicopter to ferry the dead soldiers and injured personnel. In addition, 29 civilians were seriously injured. [end recording]

Senator Accuses Aquino of Meddling in Probe

HK0910050190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 9 Oct 90 p 7

[By Patrick Paez]

[Text] Senator John Osmena accused President Aquino yesterday of allegedly pressuring three of his colleagues against signing a Blue Ribbon committee report finding Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr. culpable for violation of the anti-graft law.

In a privilege speech, Osmena identified the three as Senators Neptali Gonzales, Ernesto Herrera and Victor Ziga. But Gonzales and Herrera immediately denied the accusation and sought an ethics committee inquiry into the charges due to Osmena's alleged breach of confidentiality on the report.

Blue Ribbon committee chairman Sen. Wigberto Tanada was the only one so far who signed the report which "finds prima facie evidence of conflict of interest" by Concepcion.

The report said Concepcion may still be in control of 40,000 shares of the family-owned Republic Flour Mills despite his claims that he had already divested himself of these shares when he joined the Aquino Cabinet.

Osmena cited as his source of the alleged Malacanang pressure his own brother, Cebu Gov. [Governor] Emilio Osmena. He said that last month, Governor Osmena was aboard a Cebu-bound plane with Herrera who, during their conversation, had informed him about the President's request that Concepcion be cleared of the graft charges by the Senate.

"This is the same President that promised us moral ascendancy," Osmena told the Senate. He said he was dismayed by his colleagues' reaction to the charges, saying they should thank him for airing the alleged pressure so that they could either confirm or deny it.

Aside from denying the alleged pressure, Gonzales hinted that Osmena was looking for publicity when he aired the charges. "It's about time we put a stop to media leakages," he said. "We can earn media points by other legitimate means."

Two other senators—Ernesto Maceda and Aquilino Pimentel Jr.—also chided Osmena. Maceda said the allegation was "not very proper and courteous" while Pimentel called it a "low blow."

Vietnam

Government Spokesman Denies Chatchai Resignation

BK0510135290 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Speaking to newsmen at around noon today, Government Spokesman Suwit Yotmani noted that many people and news agencies had telephoned throughout the morning to ask about rumors that the prime minister will resign and dissolve parliament. He, therefore, questioned the prime minister on the matter and was assured by the prime minister that he had no intention of resigning or dissolving parliament. Suwit said he wanted to again pass on this reassurance by the prime minister after having made the same assurances last night.

Suwit said the cause of the rumor about the prime minister resigning may be that perhaps too many people are making too many comments or expressing diversified views, which when reported by the media caused confusion or an assumption that there were disputes or plans for a resignation. He said another probable cause is people not being familiar with how members of parliament think. MP's could have different ideas, which, when they become news, lead people to think serious disputes existed, when in fact they are disputes that can exist in a democratic system.

Asked about disputes within the Chat Thai Party, Suwit said it is natural that there would be differences of opinion in a party that has many members. But he felt that political parties have discipline, the same way that soldiers have discipline. The only difference may be in the level of discipline. Suwit said he is confident that the prime minister, who is also the party leader, will be able to keep his party members under control.

Suwit noted that the prime minister is very concerned about the people's living conditions and economic issues. He does not worry about the political situation. The prime minister is concerned about the people's plight, such as the LPG [liquefied propane gas] truck explosion, the capsizing of the tourist boat, and the high price of commodities, and has stressed that assistance is given to the people readily and thoroughly.

Chatchai Clarifies Current Political Situation

BK0510144990 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The current political situation is of great interest to the people and the mass media. Today Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan talked to journalists at the Dusit Thani Hotel and Government House, giving assurances that there is no confusion in the current political situation and noting that he is ready to consider the proposals of government parties concerning a reshuffle of their ministers. He says:

[Begin recording] [Chatchai, in progress] ...I am telling you that there is no plan. I have no plan to do anything at this time. Let me explain since some journalists have already asked me similar questions earlier today.

This government has been in power for two years now. As a result, certain politicians and members of Parliament want to have their turn at being Cabinet ministers too. So I told them that any parties wanting to make changes to enable those who have not held Cabinet posts to have their chance, that they make their proposals. That is all.

[Unidentified reporter] Has each party submitted...

[Chatchai, interrupting] Some parties want to make changes but it would be improper for me to make any disclosures now. Some parties have already submitted their proposals.

[Unidentified reporter] Will there be any changes in the Chat Thai Party?

[Chatchai] It is not the right time for me to say anything. I have to inform the king and obtain approval first. There is nothing to get excited about. One half of the government's term has passed, and some politicians have become frustrated. They want to rotate to ministerial positions in order to gain some political experience now that there are only 2 years left.

[Unidentified reporter] Then you are saying there will be a big reshuffle, right?

[Chatchai] Big or small, you make that distinction yourself, not me. I see it as an ordinary matter.

[Unidentified reporter] Will some parties be removed?

[Chatchai] There is no discussion on that matter. I can only say that several parties have already submitted their lists of ministerial changes.

[Unidentified reporter] Then the same seven parties will remain in the coalition?

[Chatchai] Yes. [end recording]

Chawalit Rejects Offer To Rejoin Cabinet

BK0710022390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

[By Kokhet Chanthaloetluk]

[Text] Narathiwat—Former Army chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut disclosed yesterday that Premier Chatchai Chunhawan had asked him to rejoin the Cabinet but he rejected the offer outright.

Chawalit did not spell out what the offer was, but a Chat Thai source said it was possible that the Chat Thai Party would allow Chawalit to take over as interior minister, succeeding Chat Thai Secretary General Banhan Sinlapa-acha. Chatchai and party chairman Pol Gen [Police General] Praman Adireksan, emerging now as the most powerful figure in Chat Thai, also agreed that the post should be handed over to Chawalit. Banhan, however, is opposed to the idea, the source said.

Chawalit, who visited Rayong as guest speaker for a gathering of the province's rubber planters yesterday, said top leaders of both the government and the Opposition visited him late Friday night to discuss the coming Cabinet reshuffle. "They are all my friends. When they are in trouble they usually think of me and my advice for them is to try to get together," he said.

He added that he would not join the Chatchai III Cabinet. "Don't involve me in it again, but I want the government to stay on as long as possible. It is not true that I am campaigning for the government to collapse so that my party can make its political debut during a snap general election," he said.

Chawalit also said the next Cabinet reshuffle would be conducted out of "political necessity." "I don't want to comment on this," he said.

In his speech to the rubber planters, Chawalit suggested that Banhan may lose his interior portfolio in the reshuffle, but later with reporters, he said when he mentioned Banhan's position, he was just "kidding." "Minister Banhan and I are close friends and I was just teasing him," he added.

Meanwhile, Premier Chatchai yesterday caught a special flight from Don Muang military airport to Narathiwat for an audience with His Majesty the King. Seen off by Banhan, Chatchai was driven to the runway and immediately boarded the plane which took off at about 1:15 pm. In Narathiwat, he denied that he was presenting a list of new Cabinet appointments to His Majesty the King. "I am going to report the current economic situation to His Majesty," he told reporters.

Sources close to him said Chatchai would spend the weekend talking with all concerned on the Cabinet reshuffle which was expected to be announced early this week.

Chatchai Meets King Amid Reshuffle Speculation

BK0710004090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan sought an audience with His Majesty the King yesterday amid speculation that he will reshuffle the Cabinet to end a recent spate of infighting. The Premier flew yesterday to Narathiwat, had a brief audience with His Majesty, flew back to Sattahip, met at a naval base with advisers and then went to Phatthaya, where he and his entourage checked in at a hotel.

The flurry of activity followed a statement by the Prime Minister on Friday that he would not resign or dissolve Parliament but may reshuffle the Cabinet. Talking to reporters on arrival at Narathiwat, he said he sought the audience to brief the King on the economy.

Before checking in at the Monthien Phatthaya Hotel, he denied to reporters that the audience had to do with the Cabinet reshuffle. Mr Bowonsak Uwanno, the Prime Minister's deputy secretary-general, who travelled to Phatthaya with the Premier, said, "There has been no Cabinet reshuffle yet, and I don't know (if there will be one)."

Talking to reporters after lunch with advisers on Friday, Gen [General] Chatchai said, without elaborating, that he would have to reshuffle the Cabinet again "because someone who has not been appointed to the Cabinet wants to be." He said he had asked all the coalition parties for nominations.

Earlier yesterday, he refused to stop at the Air Force air terminal where many reporters were waiting for him, instead going straight to a waiting Air Force plane that flew him to the South. Apart from Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha, who is Chat Thai secretary-general, no other ministers were seen at the airport sending off the Prime Minister.

The Premier last night in Phatthaya booked an entire floor of the hotel for the night. Hotel staff were not allowed to take phone calls for the floor.

A Chat Thai source said he believed the Premier's audience with the King had to do with the reshuffle. "The Prime Minister has been under pressure from the party since Monday," the source said.

The pressure appeared to ease on Friday when Mr Banhan took deputy party leader Deputy Interior Minister Sano Thianthong to visit the Premier to apologise for causing a strain in the coalition by publically criticising the Social Action Party over the 150-billion-baht telephone expansion deal. The Premier had pleaded with ministers to stop bickering through the mass media.

The source said the Prime Minister's plan to reshuffle the Cabinet could be a bid to restore Government stability following the spate of infighting in Chat Thai and the coalition. The source denied speculation that the Prime Minister would replace SAP ministers with MPs from a Chat Thai faction led by advisory chairman Praman Adireksan, and would bring in the Solidarity Party. "This is not the wish of the Prime Minister," the source said. He said that several Chat Thai ministers, particulary those who had been two years in the Government, would be ousted in the reshuffle.

Mr Banhan has been criticised within and outside Chat Thai for his role in the recent review of the police reshuffle, but due to his help in ending Mr Sano's criticism of the controversial telephone deal, it was believed he would not be affected by the reshuffle. "The Prime Minister would not

want to risk worsening the problem by sacking Mr Banhan," the source said, adding that Mr Sano would also be likely to keep his Cabinet post.

National Politics in State of Struggle, Conflict

BK0810044390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Oct 90 p 9

[Editorial: "Politics of Hostage-Taking"]

[Text] After an urgent audience with His Majesty the King in the South on Saturday, Prime Minister Gen [General] Chatchai Chunhawan told reporters there was "no problem" within his administration. Contrary to widespread speculation, his audience with the King, the premier said, wasn't related to a Cabinet reshuffle; it had to do with the looming economic problems caused by increased oil prices, about which His Majesty was deeply concerned.

The premier said food prices seemed under control and the highly-publicized anti-profiteering campaign has effectively deterred price gouging and hoarding. This rosy picture, no doubt, is what he would like to see. After raising oil prices by 30 percent, he still expects the prices of foods and services to stay unchanged.

Whether his impression corresponds with reality is highly questionable. As does his contention that there is "no problem" in holding his Chat Thai Party or the government coalition of seven parties together. Though most people feel his adminstration is badly divided by serious conflicts of interests, the premier would like us to believe the crisis is nothing more than shouting matches between politicians with different ideas. "Some talk louder than others; some talk softly," the premier said.

That is his "no problem" style of looking at things. And up until now, this has kept him from becoming the slightest bit perturbed about anything.

What we see in national politics these days is a struggle between hostage-takers and hostages, with each side trying to outsmart the other for its own survival. For instance, M.R. Khukrit Pramot demanded and received a complete say in running the Social Action Party [SAP] when SAP executives, led by Secretary General Montri Phongphanit, invited him to take over the party leadership. What would the 79-year-old "Guru of Suan Phlu" do if SAP MPs disobey him and become unruly? M.R. Khukrit said he would simply step down and leave the party to its fate.

M.R. Khukrit came in the nick of time, just as a Chat Thai faction was trying to kick out the SAP and replace it with the Solidarity, the largest opposition party (which the Chat Thai faction is still trying to do). M.R. Khukrit told his men to ignore the hostile move. "Only when the premier wants us out will we begin to respond," M.R. Khukrit said. His response in such a case, he added, would [be] to demand the resignation of the premier himself. In effect, M.R. Khukrit is holding the premier hostage.

Inside the Chat Thai Party, the premier faces a continuing challenge to his leadership from the same faction that wishes to replace the SAP with the Solidarity Party. The faction, of which Deputy Interior Minister Sano Thianthong is the main spokesman, also entertains the idea of replacing Premier Chatchai with Industry Minister Praman Adireksan as party leader, and perhaps as the premier as well.

The premier's response was to threaten resignation and dissolution of the House. This was enough to pacify Sano and his faction, at least for the time being. Like most other MPs who dread the tedium of running for reelection sooner than necessary, Sano gave up. He failed to pin down Premier Chatchai and instead was captured himself by the premier, who reportedly was toying with the idea of sacking him to teach him a lesson in modesty.

Perhaps the most influential hostage of all is Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha, secretary general of the Chat Thai Party. His captor is none other than flamboyant PM's [Prime Minister] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung. Though Chaloem's Muan Chon Party has only five seats in the 246-member coalition, he apparently could force Banhan to do practically anything his way.

What has made Chaloem so powerful? Certainly not his five votes in the coalition. Banhan himself controls no fewer than 50 of the Chat Thai Party's 96 MPs.

So why can't Banhan cut down Chaloem to size, or ask the premier to drop him from the Cabinet? This is still a mystery. For the premier also seems to be under some spell of Chaloem's. He didn't dare to intervene last month when Chaloem was attacking Banhan over the latter's alleged abuse of power in a Suphan Buri police case.

Chaloem takes pride in the fact that he had attained the rank of police captain in the Crime Suppression Division. Though he has left the force, his police instinct of gathering secret information on important people and events is still strong. After two years inside the administration, Chaloem must have amassed a wealth of information which could prove extremely embarrassing—if not politically damaging—to the administratioin if it falls into the hands of the Opposition. This is perhaps why Chaloem becomes more and more powerful the longer he serves in the Cabinet.

Sooner or later he will be able to hold the administration, and indeed the entire Thai parliamentary system, hostage.

Facing the looming economic problems, the people, meanwhile, can only watch the power struggle on the sidelines and suffer the economic hardships in silence. Their pleas for help will not be heard because most of the government leaders are shouting at one another louder and louder.

King Meets With 100 Top Military Officers

BK0610023890 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Their Majesties the King and Queen hosted a special dinner for about 100 top military officers led by army chief Gen [General] Suchinda Khraprayun in Narathiwat Province last night, military sources told THE NATION.

The officers flew aboard two C-130 transport aircraft from Bangkok yesterday afternoon and arrived in Narathiwat at about 5 pm. They were granted an audience with Their Majesties at the Thaksin Ratchaniwet palace at about 6 pm. The officers were led by Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, who has been staying in Narathiwat since early this week because Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong was visiting Japan and will not be back until Oct 9.

No Cabinet members were invited to the dinner and even Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, who is concurrently defence minister, did not attend the event.

Spokesman Denies House Dissolution Rumor

BK0810133390 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Concerning rumors about a dissolution of parliament, Government Spokesman Suwit Yotmani reiterated that the prime minister has no reason to dissolve parliament because it would be inappropriate to do so. He said most members of parliament do not want parliament to be dissolved. Besides, it is not possible to dissolve parliament at this time because parliament is currently in recess.

The spokesman explains that dissolution of parliament is possible when there is a strong dispute within parliament, when a major draft bill does not pass parliamentary approval, or when parliament votes no-confidence against the government. Those are the reasons that could justify dissolution of parliament, but none of these conditions exists at present. The spokesman adds that the prime minister is always ready to listen to suggestions that will benefit the national administration.

Chatchai Plans Reshuffle; Requests Nominees

BK0610032090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Oct 90 p 3

[By Sorayut Suthatsanachinda]

[Text] Premier Chatchai Chunhawan said yesterday he intended to reshuffle the Cabinet soon but rejected a proposal by dissident Chat Thai MPs for him to throw the Social Action Party [SAP] out of the coalition government. "I will certainly reshuffle the Cabinet. One party has already submitted a list of nominees to me," he said, apparently referring to the Democrat Party. Chatchai said all coalition partners wanting to make changes in their ministerial lineups should submit nomination lists.

The premier said he told coalition leaders that the public wants a facelift for the government which has been in office for more than two years. He also claimed he had resolved internal disputes within his own Chat Thai Party which had been causing political confusion in the government. "There is no problem in the Chat Thai now. Party Chairman Praman Adireksan is my older brother-in-law and we can talk things out," he added.

He was referring to pressure from various factions rallying around Praman for him to remove party Secretary General Banhan Sinlapa-acha from the powerful post of interior minister and to dump the SAP from the coalition.

Chatchai said rebellious Deputy Interior Minister Sano Thienthong on Thursday apologized for making remarks that offended him. Chatchai reportedly was upset by Sano who kicked off an open campaign on Wednesday to pressure the premier to drop the SAP from the coalition. "He waited several hours for a meeting with me. And I told him that as a politician, he must be careful about what he says in public," Chatchai said. The premier dismissed earlier reports that he was considering sacking Sano in a reshuffle. "It's not true. I am not going to sack him," he said.

Chatchai refused to say whether the reshuffle would involve major changes in the government. He also dodged a question about whether any Chat Thai ministers would be involved in the reshuffle. "You will know it after I have presented the list of the reshuffled Cabinet members with His Majesty the King," he added.

PM's [Prime Minister] Office Minister Kon Thappharangsi said the premier had cleared up misunderstandings over several controversial issues with the dissident Chat Thai MPs. "I don't think there is any justification for the premier to step down or dissolve the House," he said. Kon added that the Chat Thai Party also had no reason to oust the SAP from the coalition.

In Phuket yesterday to preside over a ceremony to inaugurate a new terminal at the Phuket International Airport, Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit, SAP secretary general, told reporters the premier had told all coalition leaders that he would never step down or dissolve the House. The SAP also vows to stand behind Chatchai until it senses that the premier thinks negatively of the party, Montri said.

Montri and SAP leader M.R. Kukhrit Pramoj said Thursday that the SAP would not pull out of the coalition even if the Cabinet rejects the Bt150-billion project for a Thai-British consortium to increase telephone lines in the country by three million.

Democrat, SAP Officials on Cabinet Reshuffle

BK0810155090 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Democrat Party Secretary General Major General Sanan Khachonprasat has affirmed his party wants another reshuffle of the cabinet. He says:

[Begin recording] [Sanan, in progress] ...We have been informed and have made a decision. There is no problem as far as the Democrat Party is concerned. It is up to other parties to decide what they want to do.

[Unidentified correspondent] Have you submitted the reshuffle proposal?
[Sanan] No, not yet.

[Correspondent] When will it be submitted?
[Sanan] We are ready to submit it at any time. [end recording]

Social Action Party [SAP] Secretary General Montri Phongphanit also confirmed his party will remain in the government in the next cabinet reshuffle.

[Begin Montri recording] The Social Action Party will not leave the government. Do not ask questions that will cause disputes. [end recording]

Chatchai Faces Chat Thai, External Challenges

BK0610015790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 5 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] Coalition leaders on Wednesday night pleged continued support for Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan who in turn vowed to guide the crisis-ridden government until it completes the four-year term, senior Cabinet members said yesterday. Despite strong speculation yesterday about an imminent Cabinet shake-up, the sources ruled out the possibility of a major reshuffle. The Democrat Party, however, held out its plan to reshuffle its own ministers.

Wednesday's move by dissidents in Chatchai's Chat Thai Party to oust him as party leader and the Opposition's threat to push for a censure debate against the government prompted rumours about a major political change.

PM's [Prime Minister] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung, leader of the Muan Chon Party, said on Wednesday night that Chatchai would not reshuffle the Cabinet, or dissolve Parliament, or resign as Chat Thai leader. Chaloem talked to reporters after he and other coalition leaders met Chatchai at the premier's Ratchakhru residence.

PM's Office Minister Phon Roengprasoewit, leader of the United Democratic Party, said yesterday the coalition leaders vowed to continue to support Prime Minister Chatchai during the meeting. "There is nothidng to worry about. Why do you always want us to go for elections?" he told reporters. Phon said the six coalition partners were still united despite conflicts among various ministers.

Deputy Prime Minister Mana Rattanakoset, secretary-general of the Ratsadon Party, confirmed that Chatchai would not effect any major political changes. "He told us the government must survive its four-year term. There won't be House dissolution or resignation," Mana said. Asked whether Chatchai would reshuffle the Cabinet, Mana said the prime minister would allow coalition partners to reshuffle ministers of their own parties. "The prime minister said if coalition parties want to reshuffle their ministers, they have the right to do it and he won't intervene," he said.

But Democrat Secretary-General Sanan Kachonprasat, who is also deputy prime minister, contradicted Mana's statement. "Whether to reshuffle the Cabinet is the prime minister's absolute business," said Sanan. Asked if the Democrat Party would change its Cabinet line-up, Sanan said: "Take it easy. We need to hold a party meeting first."

Deputy Prime Minister Athit Kamlang-ek, leader of the Puangchon Chaothai Party, hinted at a Cabinet reshuffle. "Our party has only three ministers and all of them have just begun their work. There is no need for us to change," he said. "But I don't know about the other parties. There may be some changes."

Four Chat Thai Party MPs yesterday called on Chatchai to open an extraordinary session of the House of Representatives to defuse the current political crisis. The MPs said Chatchai should invoke Article 153 of the Constitution which empowers him to call a special House session. But the article stipulates that any session opened by the prime minister cannot call for votes on any matter, such as a no-confidence vote.

The MPs who made the call are Trang MP Phitak Rangsitham, Chachoengsao MP Chaturong Chaisaeng, Chumporn MP Chatturan Khotchasi and Songkhla MP Nikon Chamnong. Speaking to the press at Parliament, the MPs said Thailand was facing "harsh" economic problems while coalition partners were engaged in personal squabbles. The result is that the public is losing faith in the government, they said.

The administration has been enduring heavy criticism for allegedly failing to control consumer prices after it increased oil prices by more than 20 percent last month.

The public has also become witness to conflicts within the coalition over two multi-million-baht projects—the mass-transportation skytrain project and the expansion of telephone lines in Bangkok, the MPs said. As they see it, the only way out for the government is to call the special session and let the House debate on the problems.

Corruption Problem Examined, Resolution Urged

BK0810091390 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 7 Oct 90

[From the "Sayamanusati" Program]

[Summary] Dear listeners, if you study Chinese history you will know that there was an examination in China in the past for recruiting persons who had knowledge and the ability to hold government posts. The persons who came first in the highest imperial examination would be accorded the title "zhuangyuan." The "xueshi" [scholar] post was the most important post among the "zhuangyuan." The "xueshi" noblemen had the duty to receive complaints from the public and present them to the emperor. They also had freedom to speak their minds. Historically, this nobleman's post was beneficial to the emperor because he would help the emperor know the real hardships of the people instead of simply being another one of those noblemen who liked to flatter. The "xueshi" noblemen were enemies of other noblemen who bribed to get the posts without going through examinations. When they got the positions, they tried to find opportunities to recoup their investment, which caused troubles for the people and country.

This Chinese history is presented to serve as a reminder that every country, every language, and every society have both good and bad people. When bad people can join and cooperate together, good people will stand to lose. There is a Chinese word "hua" [in the Chaozhou dialect], which means cooperation. Someone always hears about "hua" among businessmen in bidding for some construction projects. The businessmen cooperate in bidding for the projects and then share the benefits among themselves. Government officials may also use their positions to cooperate with the businessmen, such as in purchasing and undertaking construction projects. "Nowadays, the mass media raise the corruption problem almost every day." The people are also interested in this problem. This is a good point of the democratic system. "The prime minister has always said that everyone has the right to speak or give his opinions. In particular, the mass media, which can find news in a broad range, can help the people know about what is going on in the country and help senior government officials find ways to prevent the problems." Those who commit mistakes or try to take opportunities will have to be more careful and will be afraid of having their mistakes exposed. There is no bill to prove corruption. It is difficult to prove a corruption case and to punish the wrongdoers in line with laws becasuse those who know a corruption case sometimes get involved in the case. As a result, no government agencies should neglect the problem. They should consider ways to prevent and suppress any suspicious cases. Corrupt practices should not be allowed to continue as a tradition.

"Dear listeners, in the past there was a saying that corruption was rampant in developing countries. However, now it is noted that corruption can also exist in countries with good economic foundations if the countries do not have a good administrative system. Why is corruption rampant in underdeveloped or developing countries even when those countries are under a democratic system? Development needs a lot of big projects, most of which open chances for corruption, such as construction projects and purchasing of material and equipment." It is difficult to control this if there is a lack of a good administration. There is a strange story that in one developing country, policemen do not arrest pickpockets because the pickpockets in that country set up an association which shares benefits with the policemen. Cases of officials cooperating with brothels, gambling dens, smugglers, and drug traffickers have always been heard in everywhere in the world. Corruption is a disease inherent in society. It is necessary to cure this disease as quickly as possible. If we can reduce corruption, we will have more good officials than bad ones in the government service and may finaly get rid of the bad ones.

Chawalit To Urge Aung San Suu Kyi's Release

BK0810030890 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

[Kokhet Chanthaloetlak]

[Text] Phatthaya—Former army chief Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut, one of a few close foreign friends of the Burmese military junta, said yesterday he would visit Rangoon soon to try to secure the release of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Chawalit said he would negotiate the release of the leader of the National League for Democracy [NLD] with Burmese military leader Saw Maung, "who is like my brother". But he did not indicate why Saw Maung, who has resisted all previous international attempts to gain Suu Kyi's release, might accede to his request.

Chawalit said he had received many letters from abroad urging him to help Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for over a year. He did not say exactly where the letters came from. "Many of the letters state that only Gen Chawalit can free Aung San Suu Kyi," he said at the Asia Phatthaya Hotel, where he gave a speech on "A New Road for a Man Named Chawalit".

The NLD won a landslide victory in a general election in Burma in May, sweeping more than 80 percent of parliamentary seats. But the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), which has ruled Burma since the military crushed the pro-democracy movement in a bloody coup in 1988, has refused to hand over power to the party.

Chawalit said he had not fixed a date for his visit to Burma. The former military leader, who is planning to set up a political party, cancelled a plan to visit Rangoon on Aug 2 because of other engagements.

Chawalit said he would discuss many other issues with Saw Maung including the frequent intrusions of Thai fishermen into Burmese waters and a Thai plan to import Burmese natural gas. "Our topics will include the detention of Ang Sann Suu Kyi. I will urge the Burmese Government to release her. I will talk about the subject as a brother of Gen Saw Maung," he said.

Aung San Suu Kyi has been confined since troops surrounded her house in July 1989. Burmese Ambassador to Thailand U Nyunt Swe late last month indicated she might not be freed soon because the SLORC did not want further popular unrest. Seven other NLD leaders have been arrested since the May election.

Chawalit was the first high-level foreign dignitary to break Burma's international isolation after the 1988 coup. He became a close friend of Saw Maung, whose government has punctured international trade sanctions through its relations with Thailand. The Burmese junta triggered another international uproar recently following reports that army troops had entered Western embassies and detained Burmese employees of the missions for interrogation.

The SLORC announced over the weekend that it was the legitimate ruler of the country and would not succumb to outside "unwarranted and unjustified pressure" for it to step down.

Chawalit said it was he who had asked Saw Maung to hold the May elections.

After announcing plans to form a political party about one month ago, Chawalit on several occasions has mentioned his role in foreign affairs when he served as army commander-in-chief.

Chawalit said last week his ties with all four Cambodian factions was part of the reason for the considerable progress in international efforts to bring peace to Cambodia.

Foreign Ministry on ICRC Concern for Refugees

BK0510151090 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's Information Department, referring to the concern expressed by the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] for safety from effects of fighting and health of some Cambodian refugees who returned to their home country, says the Thai Foreign Ministry has issued a statement stating that the return to the area concerned was voluntary and that the Thai Government has no power to stop them from returning to their home country because it would be a violation of their human rights.

Subin Discusses Middle East, GATT in Speech

BK0610054390 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan delivered an address to the UN General Assembly on 2 October. In his address he noted Thailand's positions and views on the situation in the Middle East, resolution of the Cambodian problem, and international economic and trade cooperation. [passage omitted covered by referent item]

On the Middle East situation, the United Nations, particularly the UN Security Council [UNSC], has played a significant role in preventing an escalation of the situation caused by the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. Thailand has supported all UNSC measures because it cannot condone armed aggression, which violates the UN charter and international law. [passage omitted]

On international trade cooperation, the foreign minister emphasized the importance of free trade within the GATT framework and the cooperation of all countries to promote fair trade. He expressed the hope that future cooperation between the Asian and Pacific countries will play a greater role in international economic and trade cooperation.

Officials Detail Aid for Thai Workers in Gulf

BK0610143590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Amnuai Yotsuk and Director of the Information Department of the Foreign Ministry Sakthip Krairoek jointly stated that Thailand is the only country that has speedily repatriated a large number of its workers in Kuwait and Iraq. This has come about as a result of the correct and quick decisions made by the Thai Government. In the process, the Thai Foreign Ministry made diplomatic contacts with the governments of Iraq, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia, which all have good relations with Thailand, asking for their help and cooperation for the safe and urgent repatriation of Thai workers stranded in Kuwait. With the assistance of these countries, it took only 21 days for Thailand to evacuate 6,500 Thai workers from Kuwait. Only 20 Thai workers have voluntarily decided to continue working in Kuwait, with three pledging to help oversee the Thai Embassy there.

Moreover, the Foreign Ministry is working on the financial claims of Thai workers who had the dinar currency in their possession or in Kuwait banks. The ministry has discussed this matter with the Kuwaiti oil minister who has promised to try his best to solve the issue. The Foreign Ministry has also instructed the Thai Embassy in London to negotiate with the Kuwaiti national bank, which will set up its office in London, to sort out its payment problem and revalidate the Kuwaiti dinar as consideration of payment to Thai account holders.

The deputy foreign minister added that a total of 1,291 Thai workers have returned from Iraq. It is estimated that about 500 Thai workers have continued to work there. They will return home separately in groups of about 30 to 50 after completing their contracts. All of them are expected to return home soon.

However, if they want to go home or if the Thai Embassy believes that they will no longer be safe, it will negotiate with their employers for their quick return. For workers who wish to stay, the embassy will continue to take good care of them and help them when problems arise.

Chatchai Views Oil Prices, Refinery Approval

BK0810154790 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Before chairing the meeting of the National Energy Committee at Government House today, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan refused to answer questions from newsmen about his advisers' meeting yesterday with General Chawalit Yongchaiyut at the latter's residence. Instead, he talked about the importation of foreign cigarettes and the intention to reduce retail oil prices if the situation in the Persian Gulf improves.

[Begin recording] [Chatchai, in progress] ...I do not know yet, the issue must be studied in greater detail. A decision on construction cannot be made that easily. Normally, industrial plants belonging to the private sector...

[Unidentified correspondent, interrupting] Will the oil price...
[Chatchai] Yes, retail prices will be cut.

[Correspondent] The oil fund continues to flow out?
[Chatchai] Yes, it is flowing out, but the government can help. The government must always help the people.

[Correspondent] Can the retail oil prices be kept at the present levels?
[Chatchai] Yes, the government does not want to cause people anymore trouble. The latest increases were enough. [end recording]

After the meeting of the National Energy Committee, the prime minister was asked by newsmen about the military senators' plan to support the opposition bloc's attempt to convene a special session of parliament; he replied he knew nothing about it at this time.

The prime minister also said Caltex has been given approval to build a fifth oil refinery and that other oil companies will be given opportunity to set up refineries, provided they fulfill set conditions.

Government To Protest U.S. Seafood Import Laws

BK0810025590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Oct 90 p 17

[By Ratchaphon Laowanit]

[Text] Thailand will protest to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade about United States' environment-related trade protection measures which are adversely affecting Thai canned seafood exports. The Commerce Ministry will tomorrow ask the Cabinet to approve an official protest against the U.S. action, an informed ministry source said.

Several U.S. laws related to environmental protection block imports of canned seafoods from other countries, especially Thai canned tuna.

Washington's move constitutes trade harassment and is a distortion of U.S. laws, according to Thailand. Nor does it comply with the GATT's rules which do not permit any country to use internal laws against other countries.

Although the environment issue is very important among developed countries it does not mean the U.S. is authorised to act as judge of the world on the matter, the source said. "Every country is concerned about the environment, including Thailand, but it is not necessary to do things this way."

The Thai protest follows a letter to the ministry from the U.S. Embassy on September 27 asking the ministry to certify that Thailand will enact, by November 6, a ban on imports of yellow-fin tuna and yellow-fin tuna products from Panama. Thailand must provide documentary proof to the U.S. by December 7. From September 7, Washington embargoed imports of yellow-fin tuna and related products from Panama under provisions of the Marine Mammals Protection Act (MMPA) and, as a result, the U.S. court ordered Panama to cease drift-net fishing in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean because dolphins were being netted.

A 1988 amendment to the marine act extended the ban to products not just from harvesting nations but also intermediary nations, such as Thailand.

Countries buying tuna from Panama are "ordered" by the U.S. to ban fish trade with Panama within 60 days and report to the U.S. within 90 days or they will be blocked from exporting to the U.S.

The source said most tuna imported by Thai processors are caught in the western Pacific but Thailand, unreasonably, still faces U.S. action. Last June, Thai tuna packers decided to stop buying yellow-fin tuna caught in drift-nets in the eastern Pacific to avert any criticism from environmentalists, especially Greenpeace, which might try to discourage people from buying products processed at the expense of dolphins' lives.

In a related development, Thai Food Processors' Association President Mongkhon Saraniyatham said that although the Government may protest to the GATT, the association for now has to stop buying yellow-fin tuna from Panama to avert U.S. retaliation.

SRV Wants Joint Venture Using Seized Boats

BK0810053690 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Oct 90 p B1

[Text] Vietnam has come up with a surprise counterproposal for Thailand to enter into a joint venture for fishing activity in its waters by using a fleet of 120 Thai trawlers confiscated by the country during the past years.

The counterproposal follows Thailand's bid to seek fishing rights in Vietnamese waters through Thai-Vietnam (1990) Co Ltd, a firm representing Thai fishing interests.

According to informed sources in the industry, Vietnam is interested in using the 120 trawlers it has confiscated from Thailand for illegally fishing in its waters. Although Thai fishermen have been released, most trawlers are still in Vietnam's custody.

By using the confiscated fleet, the sources said, Thailand will only need to invest in manpower and supply modern technology to the Vietnamese. "This is unfair since we intend to send our domestic fleet. We have an excessive number of trawlers for our waters," asserted one source.

Sources said the Thai 120 trawlers in Vietnam consist of 40 dragnet trawlers, 50 purse sienes and 30 driftnet trawlers powered by engines with 350-450 horsepower. This fleet will be able to obtain 120,000 tonnes of catch per year. Of the expected catch, Vietnam said, 71,000 tonnes will be sold to Thailand, 150,000 tonnes used in feed production and the remaining processed for export sales.

Sources said the Thai side has not accepted the Vietnamese proposal to use Thai trawlers held by Vietnam and will negotiate a deal which better suits Thai interests. Plotprasop Surasawadi, director general of the Fisheries Department, is scheduled to hold a meeting with industry leaders this week to map out guidelines for negotiations with Vietnam.

Phairot Chaiyaphon, president of the Thai Fisheries Association, and other industry leaders in Samut Prakan, Samut Songkham and Samut Sakhon are expected to attend the meeting. A Thai delegation will go to Vietnam to start negotiations later this month, according to informed sources.

The Vietnamese agriculture and fisheries minister had earlier told Plotprasop in Bangkok that his country would like to form a joint venture with Thailand to invest in various aspects of the Vietnamese fishing industry. The Thai side should be a company authorized by the government, the Vietnamese minister said. He said Vietnam is more interested in doing business with Thailand than other countries, which also have formed companies to open talks.

Meanwhile, the Fisheries Department said it has prepared several measures to help fishermen affected by oil price increases. However, it concluded that the proposal for a tax rebate on fuel oil is not practical since the government will help to give the same treatment to other industries. The department said it will seek approval from the Commerce Ministry to include several products used by the industry in the list of goods controlled by the government to allow immediate action against hoarders and profiteers. These goods include various kinds of fishing nets, ice, crates and lubricants.

Moreover, the department will suggest that the industry should form cooperatives to buy fuel oil at a lower price which excludes the marketing fee of Bt0.30 per litre.

Wichan Sirichai-ekkawat, a director of the Thai Fisheries Association, said fishermen in other countries receive tax rebates on fuel oil

Vietnamese, Lao Ministers To Visit in October

BK0510163690 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Making his first press briefing at the Foreign Ministry today after assuming his post as director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, Sakthai Krairoek said Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan has invited Lao and Vietnamese foreign ministers to visit Thailand as guests of the Foreign Minister.

Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut is scheduled to visit Thailand during 11-12 October. His delegation will include his wife and the deputy director of the Lao Foreign Ministry's International Organizations Department. Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's visit is scheduled for 26-30 October. His delegation will include his wife, director of the International Organizations Department, and his secretary.

The purpose of the visit by the Vietnamese and Lao foreign ministers is to acquaint them with the Thai foreign minister and deputy foreign minister. Promotion of bilateral economic and trade cooperation will also be discussed during their visits.

Vietnam

Group Accused of Plotting Overthrow, Rebellion

BK0710093090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0907 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi, Oct 7 (AFP)—Vietnamese authorities have dismantled a clandestine opposition group accused of seeking to disrupt national day celebrations last month and overthrowing the communist government, an official report said Sunday.

The daily NGUOI HA NOI said the group, called the Scientific Social Party of Vietnam, had more than 30 members and was seeking to "overthrow the Vietnamese Communist Party."

The group, which was dismantled in July, had plans to disrupt national day celebrations on September 2 by allegedly planning to assassinate "several high-ranking officials," the daily said. The group also planned to distribute anti-government tracts and "set off two bombs before the mausoleum of President Ho Chi Minh and in front of the statue of Lenin" in the center of the capital.

The Scientific Social Party of Vietnam had a "manifesto" and a "program" drawn up by its alleged leader, Nguyen Kiet, the 28-year-old son of a police officer accused of corruption. In the documents, he referred to "anti-communist literature sent recently to the country by exiled Vietnamese counterrevolutionaries," the daily said.

Among the 34 members of the group was a teacher, two artists, a bureaucrat and a researcher. Most of the other members ran small businesses, the daily said. The report said the group also set up a cell with four members in the city of Nam Dinh, 100 kilometers (60 miles) south of here.

The group's leader, through letters addressed to the BRITISH BROADCASTING CORP. (BBC) in Thailand and Hong Kong, was also seeking to establish links with opposition groups in exile.

All group members were either questioned by authorities in July or arrested after one member informed police of the group's activities. The daily did not say whether any members of the group would be tried.

The revelations came as Hanoi in recent months has pledged not to go the way of the crumbling communist regimes in Eastern Europe, openly attacking reform policies in the former Soviet bloc nations and pledging not to diverge from the socialist path.

Faced with the wave of reform abroad, authorities here have hardened their stance, warning of a "reactionary plot" hatched by exiled Vietnamese and supported by "imperialist circles" to topple socialism in Vietnam.

Vo Nguyen Giap on PRC Relations, Solutions

BK0610122590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1129 GMT 6 Oct 90

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Hanoi, Oct 6 (AFP)—Vietnam and China want to contribute to a quick solution to the Cambodian problem so they can normalise their relations as soon as possible, Vietnam's Deputy Prime Minister Vo Nguyen Giap said Saturday.

Bilateral problems, particularly territorial disputes, are not obstacles to normalising ties, he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE following his recent unprecedented trip to China. "The two countries want to normalise their relations as soon as possible, but there remains the Cambodian problem," General Giap said. He said he was "very optimistic" that a solution would soon be found.

His trip to China last month was the first by such a senior Vietnamese official since February 1979, when the two countries fought a brief-but-bloody border war launched by China after Hanoi invaded Cambodia to overthrow the genocidal Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge.

"We want and (the Chinese) want a solution on Cambodia to be found as soon as possible," Gen. Giap said, noting that the two countries were "making a contribution" to the solution.

Hanoi supports the regime it installed in Phnom Penh while China continues to support the Khmer Rouge, who make up the military backbone of a three-part guerrilla coalition.

The four warring Cambodian factions accepted last month a United Nations framework to end the war and set up a Supreme National Council (SNC), an interim authority of 12 members, six each for Phnom Penh and the guerrillas. But their agreement in Jakarta was immediately followed by a dispute over the inclusion in the SNC of faction leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who stayed away from the meeting.

The prince and the guerrilla factions demanded that he be appointed SNC chairman. He accepted a Phnom Penh demand that it be given an extra seat on the SNC in return. But the guerrillas rejected another Phnom Penh demand that Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen be appointed SNC deputy head.

Turning to other problems Gen. Giap said: "We can normalise ties before solutions are found to our territorial disagreements," and that "all problems can be resolved through negotiation."

The territorial disputes centre on two archipelagos in the South China Sea, the Paracels and the Spratleys, which both sides claim and over which there have been sporadic clashes.

"The clouds are begining to disappear and I was warmly received in Beijing," he said, adding that he held a "frank and open meeting with (Chinese) Prime Minister Li Peng." Asked about future relations between the two countries' communist parties, he said both had their own separate policies.

Both Hanoi and Beijing have rejected the democratic reforms undergone by hardline socialist countries in Eastern Europe and have reaffirmed their desire to continue along the socialist path.

Nguyen Co Thach Speaks at UN General Assembly

BK0610083290 Hanoi VNA in English 0705 GMT 6 Oct 90

["Text" of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's speech at 4 October UN General Assembly Session]

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 6—Following is the full text of Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's speech at the plenary session of the 45th General Assembly of the United Nations on October 4, 1990:

"Allow me to congratulate you on your election as president of the 45th session of the United Nations General Assembly [UNGA]. I am convinced that on the basis of the experiences of the last session, you will guide this session to a very fruitful outcome.

"I take this opportunity to express my high appreciation of the important contributions of the secretary general of the United Nations to the cause of peace and cooperation among nations.

"I wish to warmly welcome Namibia and Liechtenstein as members of the United Nations.

"The most outstanding feature of the world situation today as widely stressed by previous speakers in this forum consists in the extremely profound and contradictory changes that have taken place throughout the world at an exceptional pace and in a most unexpected fashion to everyone. Those historically unprecedented developments herald still greater changes in the coming decades.

"The current changes give rise to diverging interpretations. Whatever the interpretation, however, the two million years of human history show mankind's constant progress towards peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

"There is a unanimous view in this forum that cold-war confrontation is drawing to an end and yielding the way to a new conjuncture of both conflict and cooperation in peaceful coexistence between different countries. Almost all countries have expressed their shared deep concern over a number of global issues such as peace, national independence, human rights, development, environment, demographic explosion, and social issues related to the family, women and children as well as the debt burden, unequal economic and trade [word indistinct], the drug problem and the rise in crime, and so on. Vietnam fully shares this common concern and supports legitimate demands in this respect. It will do its utmost to contribute, together with the international community, to the solution of those global issues.

"I should now like to touch upon the encouraging developments around the Cambodian issue, which for the past ten years has been one of the most controversial issues at the United Nations.

"Since 1987, the countries of Southeast Asia and the Cambodian parties have entered into talks towards a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian issue. The two Jakarta informal meetings and the talks between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk in Paris, Bangkok, Jakarta, and Tokyo have provided a broad basis for a comprehensive political settlement of that issue. At the Jakarta meetings, the countries of the region have agreed on the necessity to solve the two key issues, namely the total withdrawal of foreign troops and the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. The two Jakarta informal meetings have also called on other countries to [word indistinct] to respect Cambodia's independence, neutrality and non-alignment.

"Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk have agreed on the creation of an interim authority based on national reconciliation and the holding of truly free and democratic general elections. In particular, through successive talks in Bangkok, the two sides have reached agreement on the establishment of a Supreme National Council whose 12 members would be equally divided between the two sides. The countries of the region also agreed that eventual agreements on Cambodia will have to be guaranteed by an international conference and their implementation be subjected to international control.

"As a result of those agreements, the Paris international conference on Cambodia was convened in mid-1989. The Paris international conference under the co-chairmanship of France and Indonesia has made an important step forward in the search for a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian issue. However, the conference had to be temporarily suspended. It will reconvene once the countries concerned and the Cambodian parties have settled their outstanding differences. "The unilateral total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia in September 1989 settled one of the two key issues of a solution to the Cambodian issue. This has opened up the way towards a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian issue. With the unilateral total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge and their allies nurtured the illusion of taking advantage of the major shift in the military balance of forces in Cambodia in order to step up military operations in the hope of reversing the situation in that country. There is in public opinion widespread concern over the Khmer Rouge's all-round preparations, especially their setting up of weapon caches that should allow them to wage war for from seven to ten more years with the ultimate objective of restoring their genocidal rule.

"Since the beginning of 1990, the five permanent members of the Security Council have actively built upon the very significant results achieved by the two meetings of the regional countries, the talks between the Cambodian sides and the Paris international conference on Cambodia as well on the major efforts made by Australia. The five permanent members have thus succeeded in working out the framework for a comprehensive political solution of the Cambodian issue. Vietnam highly appreciates their important contributions. However, the document of the five permanent members of the Security Council fails to mention the elimination of the genocidal regime in Cambodia. The international community should not condone the perpetrators of crimes against humanity and should uphold the Convention of the United Nations on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide. Moreover, Vietnam holds that the Charter of the United Nations should be scrupulously respected with regard to matters pertaining to the sovereignty of Cambodia, an independent country and member of the United Nations.

"At the informal meeting held in Jakarta last September under the co-chairmanship of Indonesia and France, the Cambodian parties have accepted the recommendations of the five permanent members of the Security Council as a framework for a political settlement on Cambodia and have set up the Supreme National Council. Vietnam hopes that a delegation of the Supreme National Council will soon legitimately represent Cambodia at the United Nations. The process of setting up the Supreme National Council offers a reminder that no external authority or group of countries can replace the determining efforts of the Cambodian peoples with a view to resolving themselves Cambodia's internal problems.

"In the course of the past 45 years, the 1954 Geneva international conference on Indochina, that of 1961-1962 on Laos and the 1973 Paris international conference on Vietnam have concluded three wars, restored peace and recognized the national rights of the peoples on the Indochinese peninsula. In mid-1989, the Paris international conference was convened to find a solution for the Cambodian issue. For the past 45 consecutive years all the settlements of the crises on the Indochinese peninsula with the participation of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council have taken place outside the framework of the United Nations for reasons known to all.

"This time we are heartened by the very important contribution of the five permanent members of the Security Council and the Secretary General of the United Nations. Nevertheless, it is Vietnam's view that the settlement of the Cambodian issue which was auspiciously started in Paris should be concluded most auspiciously in Paris. Vietnam also holds that members of the Paris conference should finalize the international agreement on Cambodia within the month of October. The Paris conference could be reconvened next November or December in order to adopt and to sign that agreement.

"One prominent question of great concern to Vietnam as well as to the world community is the Gulf crisis. Vietnam holds that this crisis should be solved through peaceful means within the framework of the Arab countries and on the basis of respect for the United Nations Charter. For its part, Vietnam complies with Resolution 661 of the United Nations Security Council.

"Having suffered from wars of aggression for the past 45 years, the Vietnamese people as well as the other peoples on the Indochinese peninsula earnestly aspire for peace and good relations with all other countries in the world on the basis of mutual respect. It is Vietnam's hope that a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian issue would bring to peoples on the Indochinese peninsula the way towards a new era, an era of peaceful reconstruction and development, and will help promote cooperation and peaceful coexistence among Southeast Asian countries.

"Since 1987, Vietnam has begun a renewal process with a view to transforming its economy from a system of bureaucratic and centralized management based on state subsidies into an economy of commodity production with a socialist orientation. The year of 1989 witnessed major changes in the economic, social and political life in Vietnam. For 15 years, our economy had been beset by increasingly serious imbalances between supply and demand, budget revenue and expenditure, monetary quantity and commodities, imports and exports, and so on. The process of reform and restructuring has allowed the gradual restoration of balance within the economy. By the end of 1989, the annual inflation rate had been lowered from nearly 1,000 percent down to under 40 percent. From a country ranking 3rd among rice importers in the world, Vietnam became a rice exporter, the gap between exports and imports was very significantly narrowed with exports boosted from one quarter to three quarters of imports. On the other hand, the investment law of Vietnam promulgated in 1988 is one of the most beneficial to foreign investors and has already helped Vietnam attract more than one billion dollars of foreign investment capital.

"The International Monetary Fund has positively appraised the bold measures taken by Vietnam in its process of economic reform and restructuring. The IMF has stated that Vietnam has fulfilled it commitments to the IMF. And Vietnam hopes that the latter will keep its commitment to Vietnam. Vietnam is still groping its way at the macroeconomic level in converting a highly centralized planned economy into a socialist-oriented market economy. The initial achievements are still modest but the decisive factor is that the renewal process is on the right track and has yielded results beyond our expectation. It is possible to affirm that the line of all-round renewal has become an irreversible process. These modest achievements should be appraised bearing in mind the impact of 40 years of war destruction on the country's economy and the fact that the renewal process in Vietnam is taking place in the context of the extremely complex and unexpected developments in the world. These initial achievements in our policy of renewal have laid bare our fundamental errors. Our aim is to build a society for the people but our error lay in the fact that it was in practice a society of the state and by the state. The initial success of the renewal process stems from the readjustment of our policy so as to effectively build a society of the people, for the people, and by the people. It is clear that a society for the people cannot be one of the state and by the state. Obviously, the building of a society of the people, by the people and for the people calls for renewal not simply in the economic field but in all spheres, including economic, social, cultural and political. In concurrence with the reform and restructuring of its economy, Vietnam is undertaking a gradual and steady process of political renewal. Vietnam is determined to take the renewal process forward and at the same time to integrate its economy into the world economy. Vietnam is resolved to preserve its independence and at the same time to develop relations of friendship and cooperation with all other countries on the basis of mutual respect.

Such is the basis of the renewal of Vietnam's foreign policy, a policy of peace, independence and friendly cooperation with other countries."

Workers Confederation Delegation Visits Cambodia

BK0610151790 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] A delegation of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers led by its president, Nguyen Van Tu, has paid a week-long visit to Cambodia. While there, the delegation was received by Chea Sim, chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the National United Front for Construction and Defense of the Kampuchean fatherland.

Nguyen Van Tu praised the achievements of the Cambodian people and expressed his support for the correct stance of the State of Cambodia and the process of seeking a political solution to the Cambodian issue.

The delegation held talks with a delegation of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions led by its president, Mit Men Saman, and exchanged experiences and cooperation between the two organizations. It also visited a number of economic and cultural establishments in Phnom Penh.

Delegation Visits DPRK, Meets With Officials

BK0410155390 Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 04 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 4—A Vietnamese Government delegation led by Tran Lum, minister of Heavy Industry and Chairman of the Vietnamese section of the Vietnam-DPRK Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, attended the commission's second session held in Pyongyang from September 24-October 1. While there, the Vietnamese delegation held talks with a DPRK Government delegation led by Kye Hyong-sun, minister of Engineering Industry and Chairman of the DPRK section of the said commission. The two sides signed the protocol of the session.

Minister Tran Lum was received by DPRK Premier Yon Hyong-muk on October 1.

The Vietnamese delegation also toured a number of economic and cultural establishments in the country. It left for home on October 2.

DPRK Ambassador Holds News Conference

BK0610064690 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 5—Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Yi Hong called a press conference here today on the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The DPRK ambassador reaffirmed that the Workers' Party of Korea would continue to uphold the banner of national independence to lead the Korean people in the struggle for peace, sovereignty and national reunification.

UN Delegation Requests Aid for Workers in Iraq

BK0710123290 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] At the urgent request of Vietnam, the Embargo Committee of the United Nations Security Council met on October 3 to hear a report presented by Vietnam on the situation of Vietnamese workers in Iraq and its appeal for UN assistance.

The head of the Vietnamese delegation at the United Nations, Trinh Xuan Lang, told the committee of the difficulties of the Vietnamese workers in Iraq and asked the United Nations to call on international organizations inside and outside the United Nations to give food, medical, and financial assistance and means of transport to transfer the Vietnamese workers home.

Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang also requested the UN Embargo Committee to allow two Vietnamese ships to carry 500 tons of rice for Vietnamese workers living in Iraq and en route home the ships will carry a part of the Vietnamese workers to Vietnam.

The meeting was held in closed door and failed to reach an agreement to allow the Vietnamese ships to come to Iraq as some members of the committee held the opinion that India had agreed to share a part of food on an Indian ship to the Vietnamese workers in Iraq.

So far, the Embargo Committee has allowed one Indian ship to transport rice to the Indian workers in Iraq and Kuwait. Earlier, Vietnam had made clear that Indian assistance can only help overcome some difficulties of the Vietnamese workers but it cannot meet their long-term demand if there is no additional supply.

Vietnam still asks for the permission for two Vietnamese ships to come to Iraq. The committee will meet again next week to continue to consider Vietnam's proposal.

Article on Issue of Foreign Workers in Gulf

BK0510170290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 4 Oct 90

[NHAN DAN 4 October Article: "The Issue of Foreign Workers in the Persian Gulf Zone"]

[Text] The Middle East is not only a very attractive source of the mineral oil for the world, but also a place that has absorbed many workers from many countries. A small number of foreign workers went there to join in mineral oil exploitation because this work requires technical and professional skills, while most of the remaining foreign workers there are engaged in such works as construction, industrial production, and services. They have come to the Middle East through many different ways, but mainly through labor contracts signed between governments.

According to the figures presented recently by the press of a number of countries, Egypt has up to 1 million workers in Iraq and 350,000 others in Kuwait, while the Palestinian state has 650,000 workers in the Persian Gulf countries, including 350,000 in Kuwait. The countries that have workers in both Iraq and Kuwait are: India, 200,000; Pakistan, 160,000; Sri Lanka, 135,000; Bangladesh, 105,000; the Philippines, 65,000; Saudi Arabia, 480,000; Thailand, 12,000; Turkey, 5,500; South Korea, 1,300; Japan, 700. China, Malaysia and some other countries also sent workers to the Gulf.

The sources of income from workers in Iraq and Kuwait are in fact considerable for their families, as well as to the states of their countries. Some countries have collected billions of U.S. dollars each year. As a result, the current Gulf crisis, as far as it concerns the issue of foreign workers, has already affected the interests of many countries. Many labor contracts have not been implemented adequately. The embargo and military blockade staged by the United States and some other anti-Iraq countries not only have caused difficulties for Iraq, but also have directly affected the foreign workers there. The critical shortages of goods, grain, and food products are unavoidable. Many production installations have slowed because of the shortages of imported raw materials. This has caused many foreign workers to lose their jobs. Hundreds of thousands of foreign workers in Iraq and Kuwait have crossed the borders to other countries to seek ways home. The governments of many countries and international organizations are coordinating their operations, such as giving urgent aid to foreign workers and getting them out of Iraq and Kuwait.

However, the airlift of foreign workers out of Iraq and Kuwait is very expensive. The estimated costs are U.S. $40 million for the Philippines; U.S. $70 million for Pakistan; and U.S. $60 million for Sri Lanka.

Our country has about 16,300 workers in Iraq, including 600 women. Since the very beginning of the Gulf crisis, our government has paid attention to the issue of Vietnamese workers in Iraq. Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi has sent a letter to motivate our workers in Iraq. Our Foreign Ministry has worked with the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Hanoi on this issue. As suggested by the Council of Ministers chairman, the Labor, Social Welfare, and War Invalids Ministry has coordinated with the Foreign Ministry to establish a project to solve the problem of Vietnamese workers in Iraq if a war should occur.

From 15 to 28 September, Minister Tran Dinh Hoan, a special envoy of the Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi, together with cadres of the communications, post and aviation sectors, went to Iraq to survey the situation, inquire about the situation of Vietnamese workers, and discuss with Iraq the various issues related to Vietnamese workers. We are also trying to secure international assistance in order to solve this problem. When the UN security council's embargo committee permits, our ships will transport foodstuffs to Iraq and repatriate our workers.

State Bank Deputy General Directors Dismissed

BK0710030490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The chairman of the Council of Ministers has issued Decisions No. 320/CT [chairman], 321/CT, and 322/CT on disciplining three State Bank deputy general directors—Nguyen Van Dam, Le Trong Khanh, and Ngo Tuan Kiet. The disciplinary action taken by the chairman against the three officials was dismissal from their positions as Vietnam State Bank deputy general directors.

Regarding former Vietnam State Bank General Director Lu Minh Chau, the Council of Ministers has announced that it has transferred him to another job and has proposed that the State Council consider disciplinary action against him, since disciplining a State Bank general director falls within the responsibility of the State Council.

Editorial Examines Anticorruption Struggle

BK0610064990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Oct 90

[5 October NHAN DAN editorial: "Link Party Purification With the Struggle Against Corruption"]

[Text] The campaign to purify the ranks of cadres and party members and increase the fighting strength of party organizations has been carried out in many grassroots units. Generally speaking, in those units that have conducted this campaign on an experimental basis, this party consolidation drive has succeeded one step further in purifying the party ranks, increasing the fighting strength of grassroots party organizations, and strengthening the close relations between the party and the people. However, the results already obtained have not been even and comprehensive. It is worthwhile to note that many grassroots units have not yet linked the party purification process with the struggle against corruption. Meanwhile, in some units, especially some economic organs, corruption in many forms, far from being checked, has even tended to worsen.

Party purification must be closely linked with the struggle against corruption. The purpose of this struggle is to concentrate our efforts on combating graft and bribery, deliberate transgressions of policies and law, and wasteful use of state funds and property. Struggling against corruption is no simple task. Therefore it should be conducted in a well-coordinated fashion by means of ideological, political, legal, economic, and organizational measures coupled with coordination between different sectors and levels. First of all, this policy must be deeply understood by party committee echelons, especially grassroots party organizations. We should see to it that all cadres, party members, and people clearly realize the significance of Council of Ministers Decision 240 on the struggle against corruption, which is essentially a continuation of the campaign to purify and increase the fighting strength of party organizations and the state apparatus and to make social relations healthy according to Party Political Bureau Resolution 4.

In the party consolidation process, when party committee echelons make their general situation reports, they must link party consolidation efforts with the struggle against corruption, and they must work out measures to guide party members in reviewing anticorruption work. All solicitation of public suggestions and criticisms must be closely associated with the requirement that the masses help expose corrupt acts, bribery, and wasteful practices causing losses of state and collective property. Party organizations and internal affairs services should formulate plans to closely coordinate their work in the process of investigating and drawing conclusions, thereby contributing to ensuring that cases of corruption are expeditiously and accurately dealt with.

Oil Production Joint Venture With Japan, U.S.

BK0610154490 Hanoi VNA in English 0751 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 6—The "Saigon Petrol" of the Ho Chi Minh City and the Japanese-US Electronic Investment Enterprise (EIE) company have signed a contract in principle on increasing the output and product diversity of the Cat Lai oil refinery.

The small-scale Cat Lai refinery, a joint-stock company shared by four Vietnamese partners, is producing four products from crude oil at a combined rate of 40,000 tons per year.

Under the terms of the contract, the EIE will invest in raising the refinery's capacity to 250,000 tons per year in 14 products. Besides the Vietnam-Soviet joint oil and gas company (VIETSOVPETRO), eight foreign multinational companies have signed contracts on oil exploration and exploitation on the continental shelf of Vietnam. The EIE is the ninth unit participating in oil investment, but is the first one that goes in for petrochemistry.

Radio Discusses Increase in Foreign Investment

BK0610160290 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Feature "Talk of the Week"]

[Text] The Hanoi-based correspondent of AGENCE FRANCE DE PRESS [AFP] has reported that so far about 200 foreign projects with an initial capital investment of U.S. $1.5 billion have been given licenses and implemented in Vietnam. We will not comment on the accuracy of this information but would like to stress that the open-door policy of Vietnam and the fact that many foreign companies want to do business with this country are the concern of not only politicians and businessmen but also of people of different nationalities and different professions.

U.S. Senator Richard Lugar, Republican, following his visit to a number of Asian countries, maintained that his country should work out plans to remove the trade ban against Vietnam because as the Thai paper MATICHON has commented: The United States is losing a chance to do business with Vietnam and it lags behind Taiwan and South Korea in this field.

As soon as the law on foreign investment in Vietnam was promulgated two and a half years ago, it was recognized by public opinion as open and attractive. It is not accidental that since this law was made public, Vietnamese authorities and state officials every month received dozens of foreign delegations who come to make surveys on or propose to sign investment contracts.

The first two licenses were granted to a Hong Kong company to invest in a joint venture with the Vung Tau-Con Dao Special Zone, one of the most dynamic localities in Vietnam in building economy. So far, investment licenses have been granted mainly to seven provinces, including joint ventures in exploring and exploiting oil and gas, fishing and processing marine products, tourism and the production of consumer goods.

Many investors explain the reason for their decisions to invest in Vietnam saying that Vietnam is a new area of activity, having much untapped potential, where labor force is available and cheaper than other surrounding countries. Vietnam has been successful in her economic reform, in checking inflation and in overcoming her socioeconomic crisis. They have spent much time on surveying the market and Vietnam's production capacity. They have found that the commodity-economy here is rather dynamic and promising.

At a recent meeting with Vietnamese and foreign newsmen in Hanoi, Minister Vo Dong Giang, vice chairman of the state committee on cooperation and investment, also held that any foreign investment in Vietnam by any foreign country, company, and private agent is knowledgeable and beneficial to all sides. He said that although the investment law promulgated early in 1988 has been considered open, recently the Vietnamese National Assembly added amendments and supplements to it to further facilitate the investors. In accordance with these amendments, not only Vietnamese organizations or production units but also every private agents are entitled to join ventures with foreign partners.

The law also gives priority on taxation and the remittance of profits to foreign investors working with Vietnam. Speaking at the world economic forum held recently in Switzerland, Vice Chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Tran Duc Luong said that Vietnam is still the victim of an unjust and illogical sanction. He affirmed the Vietnamese state and people's determination to promote their socioeconomic reform including open-door economic policy which has been applied over the past six years and will continue in the future to contribute an active part to the cooperation, exchange relations, and labor division of the world community.

Singapore Government To Lift Investment Ban

BK0810065790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Foreign sources said that on 5 October the Singapore Government announced that it would lift its investment ban on Vietnam and Cambodia as soon as the Cambodian Supreme National Council could have a representative at the United Nations.

FRG Institute Delegation Visits, Meets Hosts

BK0910092190 Hanoi VNA in English 0722 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 8—A delegation of the Prodrich Ebert Stiftung (PES) Institute of the Federal Republic of Germany led by Dr. Ernsl J. Kerbuch, head of its International Department, paid a week-long visit to Vietnam. While here, the German delegation conferred with officials of its host organizations—the Vietnam Union of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Associations, the Vietnam-FRG Friendship Association, the Ministry of Justice, the Vietnam Television Station—and visited several economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. The German delegation promised to present the Vietnam Television with a quantity of equipment worth half a million marks, and signed on October 4 with a representative of the Vietnamese Government an agreement on opening a PES office.

The German guests were received by Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Outgoing FRG Ambassador Visits Do Muoi

BK0710064890 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 6—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi received here on October 4 Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany Joachim Broudre Groeger who paid him a farewell visit at the end of his term of office.

The Vietnamese leader had a cordial talk with the out-going diplomat.

Chairman Do Muoi Receives Soviet Ambassador

BK0410154290 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 4—The Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi received here on Wednesday Soviet Ambassador to Vietnam R.L. Khamidouline [name as received] who paid him a courtesy visit. The Vietnamese leader had a cordial talk with the Soviet diplomat.

Le Quang Dao Receives Soviet Ambassador

BK0710063790 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct.6—Chairman of the National Assembly Le Quang Dao received here today Soviet Ambassador R.L. Khamidouline [name as received] who paid him a courtesy visit.

Indonesian Ambassador Hosts Reception in Hanoi

BK0610064490 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 5—Indonesian Ambassador Aswismarmo and Military Attache Col. [Colonel] Albert Thomas Faruntu gave a reception here this evening on the 45th founding anniversary of the Indonesian Armed Forces.

Among Vietnamese guest were Gen. [General] Doan Khue, deputy minister of defence and chief of the general staff of the Vietnam People's Army and Tran Huy Chuong, assistant to foreign minister.

Members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations in Hanoi were present.

Ambassador Attends Celebration in Nicosia

BK0710070090 Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 6 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 6—Ambassador Vo Anh Tuan, representative of the Vietnamese Government, attended the celebration in Nicosia of the 30th Independence Day (Oct.1) of the Republic of Cyprus at the invitation of the Cypriot Government.

While in Cyprus, Ambassador Vo Anh Tuan paid courtesy visits to President George Vasiliou, President of the House of Representatives Vassos Lyssarides, and General Secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People (AKEL) Khristofias. He also extended them warm greetings from Vietnamese party and state leaders.

President G. Vasiliou and the other Cypriot leaders thanked the Vietnamese leaders for sending a representative to the celebration of his country's National Day, considering it a concrete manifestation of Vietnam's support to the Cypriot people's struggle for a fair solution to the Cyprus problem. They also expressed their joy at encouraging achievements of Vietnam's renovation and their wish for further strengthening and development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Dong Sy Nguyen Holds Typhoon Relief Meeting

BK0510171190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] On the morning of 4 October, Comrade Dong Sy Nguyen, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, met with the ministries and sectors concerned and with Council of Ministers work teams sent to Bac Thai Province to help overcome the aftermath of Typhoons No. 5 and 6 and heavy flash floods. The meeting heard situation reports and worked out measures to surmount the consequences of the storms and flash floods, to develop production, and to stabilize the people's living conditions in the stricken areas.

After assessing the general situation, the Council of Ministers drew a number of conlusions and adopted the following measures to deal with the aftermath of the natural calamities:

The affected localities should bring into full play their own experience and traditions to mobilize people to help one another overcome the aftermath of natural calamities. At the same time, they should organize their local sources of capital and the funds allocated by the central government in such a way as to provide money for repairing the damage caused by typhoons and flash floods, preparing conditions for stepping up winter and winter-spring crop production, closing breaches in sea dikes to keep out saline water, repairing water conservancy, and communications projects, especially schools to ensure children's education.

With regard to the central sectors, the Council of Ministers entrusted the State Science Commission and the Ministries of Construction and Commerce with the task of examining the planned supply sale norms in order to sell more materials—if these norms were found to be insufficient and if the affected localities requested—to help overcome the aftermath of natural calamities. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry should ensure the sufficient sale of fertilizer, pesticides, and veterinary medicines, and guide and assist the six stricken provinces in expanding winter and winter-spring crop production to make up for the losses caused by typhoons and flash floods.

The water conservancy and communications sectors should readjust their capital construction funds to provide some financial aid for the affected localities to help them restore their water conservancy and communications projects. Regarding National Highway 1 and the roads to various mountainous provinces in particular, the communications sector should readjust its forest-preservation funds and capital obtained as aid to help the localities restore the roads in service of forestry and to replant antiflooding forests. Especially, the sector must ensure sufficient supplies of saplings to help the six stricken provinces carry out afforestation.

The Ministries of Education and Training and Public Health should help the affected localities rebuild schools and buy medicines to prevent epidemics. The State Bank should earmark some money to lend to the six provinces at low interest rates for the purchase of fertilizer and pesticides for use in restoring production.

The Council of Ministers suggested that the ministries, sectors, and localities concerned continue to quickly implement the above-cited measures to expeditiously overcome the typhoon and flash flood aftermath. At the same time, for the 1991-1995 period, they should work out plans to build part of the construction and production projects, especially dwelling houses and storage facilities, in areas frequently hit by typhoons and flash floods as permanent, long-lasting installations, in order to limit losses caused by natural calamities.

Committee Meets on Typhoon Damage, Relief Work

BK0710064590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Yesterday morning, 4 October, the Standing Committee of the Council of Ministers met with representatives of various sectors to hear their reports on the losses caused by Typhoons No. 5 and 6 in the central provinces and by flash floods in Bac Thai Province .

Immediately after the typhoons struck, the Council of Ministers sent three delegations to visit and work in the provinces affected by natural calamities. Various localities and central services took active, urgent measures to overcome the aftermath of the typhoons and flash floods by relying on their own capital and efforts. The Council of Ministers instructed the stricken localities to bring into full play their experience, initiate local people's movements to help each other in all aspects of production and daily life, rearrange local sources of capital and the capital allocated by the central government, and temporarily put off any projects that can be postponed to concentrate capital on restoring production. In the immediate future they should begin winter crop production, prepare conditions for the winter-spring crop season, close breaches in river and sea dams, and repair water conservancy and communications projects, schools, and hospitals.

The Council of Ministers also instructed various sectors to promptly act in coordination to help the stricken localities quickly overcome the aftermath of natural calamities and ensure and stabilize production and the people's living conditions.

Do Muoi's Letter Addresses Geological Service

BK0610041190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Letter from Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, to the Vietnamese Geological Service; date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the 35th founding anniversary of the Vietnamese Geological Service, on behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, I affectionately extend my warmest congratulations to all cadres, workers, and employees of the service.

Over the past 34 years, under the party leadership, cadres, workers, and employees of the Geological Service have unceasingly exerted themselves in work and study, striving to firmly grasp science and technology step by step. Overcoming numerous difficulties and hardships, you have recorded many achievements in geological surveys, and in discovering and exploring several useful mineral deposits, have thereby ensured mineral supplies for building and developing a number of key industrial sectors of our country and effectively serving the three economic programs according to the renovation line adopted by the Sixth National Party Congress. Bringing into full play your sense of self-reliance, you have also striven to master science and technology and build our young geological service into a relatively stable and strong scientific and technical economic branch highly appreciated by our friends throughout the world for its contributions to geology.

On behalf of the party and state, I warmly commend the achievements recorded by all scientific and technical cadres, managers, workers, and employees of the geological service over the past 35 years. I also avail myself of this occasion to express sincere gratitude to the Soviet Union, other countries, and various international organizations for their cooperation with and assistance to the Vietnamese Geological Service.

Dear Comrades, developing the glorious tradition of your service in the past 35 years, let all cadres, workers, and employees of the Vietnamese Geological Service make an all-out effort to train in all respects and ceaselessly improve their scientific, technical, and managerial standards to enhance the socioeconomic efficiency of geological work, satisfactorily fulfill the service's functions and tasks in the new stage, actively prepare for the 1991-1995 plan in all respects, record achievements in honor of the forthcoming Seventh National Party Congress, and contribute to the common efforts of the entire party, people, and Army in building socialism and firmly defending our beloved fatherland.

Australia

AFP Says Ships Fire Over Bow of Iraqi Tanker

BK0810131490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1251 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Canberra, Oct 8 (AFP)—Royal Australian Navy frigates used their machine guns Monday to fire over the bow of an Iraqi tanker feared to be trying to run the Gulf blockade, government sources said.

Australian ships were also reportedly involved, together with British and U.S. ships, in an exchange with an Iraqi cargo vessel which was intercepted and boarded. The interception of the tanker was said to have been carried out by the HMAS Adelaide and the HMAS Darwin in cooperation with ships of the U.S. Navy after the tanker ignored a radio warning to stop. The tanker eventually stopped after the shots were fired, the sources said.

It was the second Gulf engagement for the Darwin, which was ordered along with the Adelaide to the Gulf by Prime Minister Bob Hawke in early August. Last month it fired warning shots over the bow of the Iraqi supertanker Al-Faw before boarding it for inspection.

The frigates recently had their orders amended to allow a graduating use of force in the event of foreign ships refusing to comply with inspection demands, made to enforce the economic blockade. The orders allow for warning machine-gun fire over the bow to be followed if necessary by heavier-calibre fire to disable the steering systems of the ship under challenge.

The office of Defence Minister Robert Ray this afternoon refused to make any comment "at this stage" on the latest incident. However, sources said the Australian Government was planning to issue a statement later Monday.

The boarding of the Iraqi cargo ship was confirmed in London by the Ministry of Defence. It said the Royal Navy ships HMS Battleaxe and HMS London, along with vessels from the U.S. and Royal Australian navies, intercepted and boarded the ship after firing warning shots.

AFP Reports Aborigines Protest at Parliament

BK0910094290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0846 GMT 9 Oct 90

[Text] Sydney, Oct 9 (AFP)—Eleven people were arrested when aborigines stormed the grounds of the New South Wales Parliament and pelted police with missiles during a land rights protest here Tuesday, police said.

A police spokesman said the aborigines were arrested after police, including the tactical response group, swooped on about 300 demonstrators who ripped down a protective fence and tried to force their way into the building. Witnesses described the melee as one of Sydney's wildest riots for a decade.

The march was organised to protest against an alleged lack of consultation over planned changes to the state's 1983 Aboriginal Land Rights Act. The protesters, who had been sitting quietly, became angry when no politicians emerged from behind the locked parliament gates to listen to their grievances, witnesses said.

One of the protest organisers delivered a half-hour ulitimatum to state premier Nick Greiner to address the protest or parliament would be stormed. "So all you boys in blue better start calling for comrades," he called out over a loud speaker.

Police kept protesters from entering parliament, pushed the crowd back into to the street and formed a human chain to cover the six-metre-wide (18 foot) hole in the fence. The placard-waving protesters began throwing cans, bottles and rocks at the police. No injuries were reported.

The protesters triumphantly paraded part of the fence's broken gate in nearby streets. The broken gate was recovered by police more than three hours later after the rally dispersed. Police said those arrested had been charged with various offences including assaulting police and resisting arrest.

Protesters claimed the state aboriginal land council had "sold out" to the government when it agreed to changes to the 1983 act which reduced the role of regional land councils. The councils were set up with government assistance and funds to help aborigines manage their land and properties. The amendments were devised to take power away from the regional land councils where abuses were strongly suspected.

Mr. Greiner later said the protest was organised by a minority "ratbag" element. "This is a minority group that feels its power base has been eroded—they're probably right about that and they are entitled to their view."

Aboriginal Land Council Chairman David Clark blamed the trouble on regional land council "agitators" whose power base would be lost if the amendments were passed.

The amended Aboriginal Land Rights Act is expected to be passed by the upper house of the state parliament this week.